

**STATE OF DELAWARE**



**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
DOVER**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER  
NUMBER NINETY-EIGHT**

**RE: ESTABLISHING THE LEADERSHIP FOR EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT IN  
DELAWARE COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, Vision 2015 was organized as a collaborative effort of leaders in education, government, business and non-profit organizations throughout the State of Delaware, and undertook a review of the State of Delaware's education system; and

WHEREAS, on October 17, 2006, Vision 2015 issued a plan that included strategies for improving Delaware's school system; and

WHEREAS, as part of the effort to improve Delaware's school system, it is desirable to track and report on the performance of schools, districts and the State, to develop more focused analysis on specific subject areas, and to authorize a diverse and specialized group to provide such analysis and develop recommendations,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RUTH ANN MINNER, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Delaware, do hereby declare and order as follows:

1. The Leadership for Education Achievement in Delaware Committee (the "Committee") is established to make recommendations to the Governor, General

Assembly, State Board of Education, local school districts, and Department of Education on strategies to continue to improve Delaware public education as we work toward a world-class education system.

2. The Committee shall consist of nineteen (19) members as follows:
  - a. The Secretary of the Department of Education;
  - b. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget;
  - c. The Secretary of the Division of Children, Youth and their Families;
  - d. The Chair of the Education Committee of the Delaware State Senate;
  - e. The Chair of the Education Committee of the Delaware House of Representatives;
  - f. A representative of higher education, to be appointed by the Governor;
  - g. One member from the Office of the Governor, to be appointed by the Governor;
  - h. Six members, selected from a list supplied by the chairperson of Vision 2015, to be appointed by the Governor;
  - i. One member, selected from a list supplied by the Delaware State Education Association, to be appointed by the Governor;
  - j. One member, selected from a list supplied by the Delaware Association of School Administrators, to be appointed by the Governor;
  - k. One member, selected from a list supplied by the Delaware Chief School Officers Association, to be appointed by the Governor;
  - l. One member, selected from a list supplied by the Delaware School Boards Association, to be appointed by the Governor;
  - m. One member, selected from a list supplied by the State Board of Education, to

be appointed by the Governor; and

n. One member, selected from a list supplied by the Directors of the Delaware Charter Schools, to be appointed by the Governor.

3. A Chairperson of the Committee, who shall not be a public official or employee, shall be designated from the members of the Committee by the Governor. A Vice Chairperson, who shall be a public official, shall be designated from the members of the Committee by the Governor. Appointees to the Committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

4. The Committee shall examine and make recommendations concerning the following matters:

a. The Committee shall oversee the development of a one-page, plain language summary of key performance measures that will provide a useful and understandable measurement of the performance of every public school, district, and the State, based upon reasonable and objective criteria. The Committee shall recommend the major criteria, which shall include student performance, satisfaction and engagement of those in and interacting with the system, and financial management measures. The publication of the summaries shall be the responsibility of the Department of Education and shall be part of the school, district, and State report card system.

b. The Committee is authorized to and shall conduct a study of the current State education spending system, and make recommendations for improving the fiscal efficiency of the system and reallocating funds among education priorities, particularly supporting those that most directly impact student achievement. The

Department of Education and local school districts are directed to provide data and information, as requested by the Committee, in connection with the Committee's study. Not later than December 1, 2007, the Committee shall report to the Governor and General Assembly with results and recommendations.

c. The Committee shall analyze and make recommendations concerning the optimal way for the State and school districts to generate and distribute State and local education funding in order to benefit students in ways that enhance the adequacy and equity of our State's system for funding public education. Such analysis shall include consideration of a weighted student funding formula as distinct from the current unit funding system used by the State. Analysis shall incorporate input from Delaware and national experts. Not later than March 15, 2008, the Committee shall report to the Governor and General Assembly with the results of the analysis.

5. The Committee shall be supported by staff of the Delaware Department of Education and the Delaware Office of Management and Budget. With the approval of the legislative members of the Committee, the Committee may also request staff support or assistance from the Office of the Controller General. The Committee may request and/or apply for any public or private resources that may be available to perform its responsibilities under this Order. The Committee may request assistance and advice from the staff of Vision 2015 and subcommittees and/or advisory committees.



Approved this 6th day of June , 2007.

Ruth Ann Minner  
Governor

Attest:

Harriet Smith Windsor  
Secretary of State