



Charter Schools Institute
The State University of New York

Statement from SUNY Charter Schools Institute on the Resignation of State University Trustees' Vice Chairman and Charter Schools Committee Chair Randy A. Daniels

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We extend our sincere thanks, appreciation and best wishes to State University Trustees' Vice Chairman and Charter Schools Committee Chair Randy A. Daniels upon his decision to step down from the SUNY Board of Trustees.

Trustee Daniels' leadership as Co-Chair of the Trustees' Charter Schools Committee along with Trustee Edward F. Cox for more than eight years and more recently, as Committee Chair, has been monumental. Trustee Daniels was instrumental first in working to interpret what was at the time new charter school legislation in the state, then in crafting policies and procedures for SUNY's role as a charter school authorizer that to this day are nationally recognized for both comprehensiveness and rigor.

Trustee Daniels has been a passionate advocate for New York State children, particularly those at risk of academic failure, from the rights of all to a high quality, affordable education, to the concept that 'if you set the bar of expectation high for children, they will rise to meet it.' The more than 16,000 students in SUNY authorized charter schools across the state are a testament to the work of Trustee Daniels.

Importantly, Trustee Daniels has been steadfast in his commitment to the founding principles of charter schools--that charter schools should be granted independence and autonomy and in exchange for those freedoms, charter school authorizers must hold schools accountable for improving student achievement. His support of highly successful charter schools and, at the same time, his ability to make the difficult decision to close down underperforming schools when necessary has been an exemplar for charter school authorizers nation-wide.

We will sincerely miss his wise counsel, leadership and truly inspirational commitment to this state's children. It will be an honor to continue to work with Chairman Hayden, Trustee Cox, Trustee Audi and the entire State University Board in carrying out his important work.

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