



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



December 21, 2010

Dear Colleagues:

I suspect some of you have heard, but I'm writing to let you know of my decision to resign from my position as Commissioner of Education. I reached this decision yesterday when I realized that I no longer wanted to do this work and saw all too plainly that the stresses of my job are more than they should be and more than I am willing to accept.

This has not been an easy decision, largely because of the many positive things we were able to accomplish in my four years working with you. I believe I have made a contribution in moving our state forward, but it is time now for another person to lead. I want to give current and future Board members sufficient time to plan the national search Governor-elect Malloy wants.

I formally intend to leave my position on January 5, 2011 and will not participate in the regular State Board of Education meeting scheduled for that day. Business will go forward as it must, and I am confident all of you will continue the very important work of our agency in helping districts, families, and students.

It has been my pleasure to work with you, and I will miss you. But I do want to close this chapter in my life and move on to other challenges that will fulfill me and give me the time I want to spend with my wife, family and friends.

I wish you well in the months and years ahead and hope you have a joyous holiday break.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark K. McQuillan".

Mark K. McQuillan
Commissioner of Education