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MEMORANDUM

Leadership, Service, and Support for School Boards

Dear BESE MEMBER,

The Louisiana School Boards Association urges that the primary focus in choosing the next State Superintendent be QUALIFICATIONS.

The law sets forth the qualifications for State Superintendent:

LRS 17:21 provides that the State Superintendent, at a minimum, should process the qualifications established by BESE for a local school superintendent. LAC 28:I.309 provides that the State Superintendent shall possess additional qualifications:

- Advanced degree in public administration, education or related area;
- Background in the formulation and implementation of public policy;
- Strong academic background; and
- Qualifications for the position of superintendent of a city, parish, or other local public school board;

and provides that a candidate should have the following experience:

- Proven record of success in administration;
- Demonstrated ability to achieve positive results
- Credibility in his/her current profession; and
- Proven record of team building

LAC 28:747 provides that the qualifications for a superintendent of a city, parish or other school superintendent:

- Valid Type A or Level 3 Louisiana teaching certificate
- 5 years of experience as a superintendent, asst. superintendent, supervisor of instruction, principal, or assistant principal, or equivalent experience.
- Master's degree
- 48 hours of graduate credit, including at least 30 hours in education administration and supervision of instruction, along with specific requirements in various educational administration content areas.

The Louisiana School Boards Assn suggests that you select a State Superintendent who:

- Meets the established minimum qualifications set forth in Louisiana law and regulation;
- Has displayed student success in public school administration in Louisiana;
- Has displayed student success in public school administration in both rural and suburban/urban communities;
- Has displayed student success in communities with diverse student populations;
- Has an understanding of the challenges of educating students in the varied public school districts across Louisiana.

Please keep these suggestions in mind when making the immensely important decision of selecting the next State Superintendent, for our children, for our teachers and for our State.

Best,

Janet Pope, Ed.D.

LA School Boards Association