

Arthur Wayne Stellar, Ph.D. **RECEIVED**
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Phone: 508.922.6389
Email: artstellar@yahoo.com **SCHOOL BOARD
OFFICE**

Pinellas County School Board
301 Fourth Street, SW
PO Box 2942
Largo, FL 33779-2942

June 2008

000015

Dear Search Committee:

Upon learning of the opening of the Pinellas County Schools Superintendent this letter of interest and the enclosures were prepared for your review.

I believe you will find my credentials worthy of including me in your selection process, especially if there is an interest in hiring a superintendent to plan and implement long range improvements with the community. My intent is to draw upon my wealth of experience for your district's benefit and for the benefit of your students. You will find a variety of factors which will set me apart from other candidates including measurable results as evaluated and validated by various professional organizations as compared with others.

My professional experience has included serving affluent, rural and urban school districts. By any subjective or quantifiable measure, I have been extremely successful in each locale in furthering the mission of the respective institution. Every board established goal has been met including resolution of financial, negotiation, personnel and public relations issues. All standardized test scores have always risen. Students have also made significant progress on professionally judged art work, science fairs, musical performances and other student contests and competitions. Due to my leadership the core mission of schools, student achievement, has always advanced!

These accomplishments have been widely recognized and validated by professional organizations in comparison with others. For example, the American Association of School Administrators recognized me with its prestigious "Leadership for Learning Award" for raising student achievement during my seven plus years as superintendent for Oklahoma City. The National Dropout Prevention Center/Network named me as Crystal Star Award Recipient in 2007 for reducing dropouts. The College Board honored me with an "Advanced Placement Special Recognition" award. I was also selected as one of the "100 District Leaders for Civic Engagement and Service Learning Network" by the Education Commission of the States.

My background includes serving as an educational leader in some of the highest performing school districts in the country. As you undoubtedly know, Shaker Heights,

Ohio has extremely high performance levels on indicators like the SAT college admissions exam which I believe could be replicated in almost any suburban district with appropriate planning. While serving as assistant superintendent in Shaker Heights we were recognized by Time, Inc. as one of the top twelve public high schools in the country and by the American Association of School Librarians as creating the "Best Library Program in the Country." Likewise, Montgomery County Public Schools in Maryland has students who regularly win national awards for their educational achievements. We would realize similar results within the Pinellas County Schools.

My experience includes serving as superintendent in several large school systems: Oklahoma City (40,000 students); Cobb County (78,000), Georgia; and Boston (63,000). I was also the chief planner including financial planning for Montgomery County Public Schools in Maryland (117,000). My very first superintendency in Mercer County, West Virginia had 14,000 students. My current superintendency in Taunton has over 8000 students. My experiences in large school districts have exposed me to a variety of educational models and best practices.

As another example, of the 22 urban school districts in Massachusetts, only 3 have made No Child Left Behind's Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for two years in a row – my current district – Taunton, as well as Cambridge and Framingham. We spend less than half of the per pupil expenditure in Cambridge while Framingham spends one and a half times more than we spend in Taunton. In Taunton, I eliminated the \$2.3 million deficit and lingering financial problems left by the previous administration. We have raised over \$1.5 million a year in NEW outside grant funding. We have saved approximately \$800,000 over the last two years with an aggressive energy conservation program which won a national award and two awards from the Massachusetts Secretary for Energy and Environmental Affairs. Several million dollars of other financial improvements have also been made. Taunton has one of the lowest expenditures per student in the state. Similar low funding situations have not hampered my ability to make improvements. I clearly know how to do much more with less.

I have also held top leadership positions in for-profit and non-profit and professional educational organizations including a software technology company and in an early childhood/preschool research foundation. . This added perspective should contribute to the uniqueness of my candidacy, as well as other desirable traits and accomplishments. Having gained significant and successful experience in a variety of situations, I am interested in serving 7 to 10 years in my next position.

Another consistent theme throughout my career has been the selection, mentoring and coaching of excellent school administrators from diverse backgrounds. I am especially proud of having 45 of my protégés become school superintendents – certainly a national record. Several have become superintendents –of- the- year for their respective state (in 2007 Guy Sconzo was selected for Texas – other states include Virginia, Illinois, Rhode Island and West Virginia). In 2007 the American Association of School Administrators selected me for the prestigious Dr. Effie Jones Humanitarian Award for mentoring minorities and women for educational leadership positions.

Student achievement has risen in every area in Taunton since my arrival. We have raised No Child Left Behind results district wide on Massachusetts tests from 78.8 on

English/language arts tests to 85.5 and from 67.9 to 74.8 on math. The dropout rate was reduced from 6.8% to 4.7%. Second grade scores have improved with 16% more students becoming proficient in reading and 17% more proficient in math. Student attendance has risen from 94.75% to 96.45%. Likewise, similar improvements have occurred in AP courses, art, music, science, Latin, etc. When appropriate you may wish to review my "Key Professional Accomplishments" for a complete list.

My commitment to all students is well documented. I stand ready to help you continue the quest for excellence in your schools the next seven to ten years. It appears to me that your school district could be recognized as among one of the top districts in the United States on every indicator of quality within five years.

At the core of my achievements is a spirit of optimism fueled by unlimited energy and unwavering tenacity. The key to my success as a leader is being a teacher and coach.

If you believe there is the potential for a long term match, as I think there is, please let me know what else I can do to be of service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Art Stellar". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Art Stellar, Ph.D.

P.S. Of the 22 Massachusetts urban school districts, Taunton is now #1 in English/Language Arts, #2 in math, #1 in attendance, and #22 (last) in per pupil spending.

P.P.S. The number of college scholarships, AP, SAT and ACT scores, etc. have also improved.

ARTHUR STELLAR, Ph.D.

Superintendent of Schools
Taunton Public Schools
50 Williams Street
Taunton, MA 02780
508-821-1201
astellar@tauntonschools.org

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS FOR TWENTY (20+) PLUS YEARS

Former CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER, Vice-President for Renaissance Learning
(Software company)

Former PRESIDENT /CEO/Consultant for High/Scope Educational Research Foundation
Chairman/President of For-Profit Subsidiary

THIRTY (30) PLUS YEARS AS AN EDUCATOR

FORMER: SCHOOL BUS DRIVER-TEACHER-COACH-PRINCIPAL

EDUCATOR IN AFFLUENT SUBURBS, RURAL SETTINGS AND INNER CITIES:

Eleven (11) School Districts - Enrollments: 3,400 to 110,000
West, Midwest, South, East, and New England

FORTY-FOUR (44) PROTEGES AS SUPERINTENDENTS

FORMER NATIONAL PRESIDENT:

- Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
- North American Chapter of World Council for Curriculum and Instruction
- Horace Mann League

MEMBER OF VARIOUS NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC BOARDS:

Former Chairman of the Board, National Dropout Prevention Center/Network, at
Clemson University

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Plato Learning, Inc. (*Education Software Company*), Former independent Director
Teachers Support Network (*Private company - recruits educators for districts*)
Docufide, Inc. (*Secure Transcript - electronic transfer, private company*),
Former Advisory Board Member

OHIO UNIVERSITY:

Three (3) Degrees (*Athens, Ohio*)

FORMER ADJUNCT FACULTY:

Harvard University (*Superintendents' Seminar Participant*)
Lesley College (*Courses on Fine Arts and Administration*)

PUBLISHED AUTHOR:

Sixty (60) plus Articles
Three hundred (300) plus Book Reviews
Eight (8) Small Books or Chapters

Arthur Stellar, Ph. D.

INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANT/SPEAKER:

Fulbright Scholar (*Twice - Japan and Argentina*)
George Soros Foundation (*Speaker - Russia and Belarus*)

NATIONAL HONORS RECEIVED:

National Dropout Prevention Network/Center: Crystal Star Award
Education Commission of the States: "100 District Leaders for Civic Engagement and Service Learning Network"
American Association of School Administrators: "Leadership for Learning" and "Dr. Effie Jones Humanitarian Award"
Tau Kappa Epsilon: "National Alumnus-Of-The-Year" & "Excellence in Education"
College Board: "Advanced Placement Special Recognition"
Horace Mann League: "Ambassador Awards" and "Friend of Horace Mann League"
Ohio University: "Distinguished Alumnus"

NATIONAL RECOGNITION:

Time Inc: "Shaker Heights High School - Top 12 Public Schools in the U.S."
American Association of School Librarians: "Best Library Program in Country" (*Shaker Heights, OH*)
Environmental Protection Agency: "Energy Star Award" (*Kingston, NY*)
Numerous awards at High/Scope Educational Research Foundation (*Ypsilanti, MI*)
Energy Education, Inc.: "Environmental Stewardship Award" (*Taunton, MA*)

LIFETIME ACHIEVER:

Eagle Scout, Boy Scouts, Age 12

PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE:

TURNAROUND SPECIALIST - Oklahoma City: 32 At-Risk Schools to 3
WIN/WIN NEGOTIATOR
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT
PRODUCT MANAGEMENT & DEVELOPMENT
PLANNING & CHANGE AGENT
PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT
PUBLIC RELATIONS, MARKETING & SALES
RAISING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

FAMILY:

WIFE: Debbie - Ed.D., Nationally Recognized (Blue Ribbon School) Principal
TWO SONS: Matt & Jon, Boston University and American University Graduates
(Jon at Hofstra Law School)
Eagle Scouts, Musicians, Athletes, Black Belts in Martial Arts, School Leaders

COLLECTOR:

Antiques
Business Cards
Coca-Cola Santa Claus Memorabilia

ASPIRING MARATHONER:

First Marathon, 1999 - finished
Marathon, 2003 - 18 months after hip replacement - finished
Latest Marathon, 2006 - Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

ARTHUR W. STELLAR, Ph.D.

Taunton Public Schools
50 Williams Street
Taunton, MA 02780
astellar@tauntonschools.org
508-821-1201

32 Luscomb Road
Taunton, MA 02780
artstellar@yahoo.com
508-922-6389

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE:

Superintendent of Schools (2005 –)
Taunton Public Schools; Taunton, Massachusetts

Chief Education Officer, Vice-President of Renaissance Learning, Inc.,
Madison, Wisconsin (for-profit) (2003 - 2004)

President/Chief Executive Officer/Consultant (2001 – 2003)
High/Scope Educational Research Foundation; (non-profit) Ypsilanti, Michigan
Chairman/President of Subsidiary (for-profit)

Superintendent of Schools (1996 – 2001)
Kingston School District; Kingston, New York

Acting Superintendent of Schools (Spring – Fall 1995)
Deputy Superintendent of Schools (1993 – 1996)
Special Assistant to Superintendent (4 months)
Boston Public Schools; Boston, Massachusetts

Superintendent of Schools (1992 – 1993)
Cobb County Public Schools; Marietta, Georgia

Superintendent of Schools (1985 – 1992)
Oklahoma City Public Schools; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Superintendent of Schools (1983 – 1985)
Mercer County Public Schools; Princeton, West Virginia

Assistant Superintendent of Schools (1980 – 1983)
Shaker Heights City School District; Shaker Heights, Ohio

Coordinator of Special Projects/System wide Planning (1978 – 1980)
Montgomery County Public Schools; Rockville, Maryland

Director of Elementary Education (1976 – 1978)
Beverly Public Schools; Beverly, Massachusetts

Elementary School Principal (1972 – 1976)
South-Western City Schools; Grove City, Ohio

ARTHUR W. STELLAR, Ph.D.

Head Teacher/Summer Learning Disabilities Program (June – August 1973)
South-Western City Schools; Grove City, Ohio

Curriculum Coordinator (1971 – 1972)
Belpre City Schools; Belpre, Ohio

Principal Intern (1971 – 1972)
Ohio University – Belpre Middle School; Belpre, Ohio

UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Adjunct Faculty (1992 – 1993)
“Urban Superintendent Preparation” – Seminar Participant
Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Instructor (1976 – 1978)
“Elementary School Administration and Supervision”
Lesley Graduate Center, Lesley College
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Adjunct Arts Instructor (1977 – 1978)
“Integrating the Arts with the Primary Curriculum”
Institute for the Arts and Human Development, Lesley College
Cambridge, Massachusetts

PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Head Teacher/Summer Learning Disabilities Program
(June – August 1973)
South-Western City Schools; Grove City, Ohio

Language Arts Specialist/Grade 8 Teacher (1971 – 1972)
Belpre City Schools; Belpre, Ohio

Fifth Grade Teacher (1969 – 1971)
Athens City Schools; Athens, Ohio

Student Teaching – Levels 4, 5, 6 (1969)
Ohio University Laboratory School; Athens, Ohio

EDUCATION:

Linden McKinley Junior and Senior High School; Columbus, Ohio (1965)

Ohio University; Athens, Ohio (June 1969, B. S., Elementary Education)

Ohio University; Athens, Ohio (June 1970, M. A., Elementary School Administration)

Ohio University; Athens, Ohio (March 1973, Ph.D., Education Administration)

ARTHUR W. STELLAR, Ph.D.

FOR-PROFIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

PLATO Learning, Inc. (Education Software Company) 2000 – 2003

Teachers' Support Network, Advisory Board (private company, recruits teachers) 2004-

Docufide, Inc. Advisory Board (private company, software for records) 2004 - 2005

Discovery Center (subsidiary of High/Scope), Chair & President 2002 - 2003

Project Contemporary Competitiveness, Inc. (Technology Subcommittee) 2005 -

PRESENTATIONS AND CONSULTING:

Presentations at national conferences for organizations such as the American Association of School Administrators, World Future Society, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, National Association for Elementary School Principals, National Association for Education of Young Children, International Society for Educational Planning, Phi Delta Kappa, National School Boards Association, World Council for Curriculum and Instruction, National Council of Teachers of English, International Reading Association, etc.

Consulting for the National School Boards Association; Educational Research Service; various school districts; Phi Delta Kappa (a variety of chapters); state departments of education; Guidelines, Inc.; the Soros Foundation; PLATO Learning; Docufide, Inc.; PROACT Search, Inc.; SchoolMatch, Inc.; and other organizations including The Institute for Management of Lifelong Learning at Harvard University.

CURRENT CONSULTING:

PROACT Search, Inc. (School Superintendent Search Firm); 2004 -

Teacher Support Network, Inc. (private company, recruitment software for teachers); 2004-

School Match, Inc. (Research, database, studies, legal experts); 2004 -

PUBLICATIONS:

Books:

"Effective Programming at the District Level," Public Relations in Schools. Theodore Kowalski, Ed. (Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, Inc., Third edition, 2003)

"Effective Programming at the Institutional Level," Public Relations in Educational Organizations. Theodore Kowalski, Ed. (Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, Inc., 1995)

"Planning in the Oklahoma City Public Schools," Educational Planning – Concepts, Strategies, and Practices. Robert V. Carlson and Gary Awkerman, Editors. (White Plains, NY: Longman Publishing, 1990)

"Staff, District, and Community Support," Instructional Leadership Handbook. James W. Keefe, Ed. (Reston, VA: National Association of Secondary School Principals, 1984; updated, 1990)

Effective Schools Research: Practice and Promise
(Bloomington, Indiana: Phi Delta Kappa Educational Foundation, 1988)

"One Model for Effective Educational Reforms in Schools," Organizing for Learning (Reston, VA: National Association for Secondary School Principals, 1988)

"Implications for Programmatic Excellence and Equity," The Fiscal, Legal and Political Aspects of State Reform of Elementary and Secondary Education, Van Mueller and Mary McKeown, Eds. (Cambridge, MA: Sixth Annual Yearbook of the American Education Finance Association, 1986)

"Curriculum Planning," Fundamental Curriculum Decisions: 1983 ASCD Yearbook (Alexandria, VA: Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, 1983)

Effective Instructional Management (Arlington, VA: American Association of School Administrators, 1983)

Educational Planning for Educational Success (Bloomington, Indiana: Phi Delta Kappa Educational Foundation, 1980)

ARTICLES AND BOOK REVIEWS:

Over 460 articles and book reviews in journals such as Educational Leadership, The School Administrator, Contemporary Education, Young Child, Phi Delta Kappan, Public Relations Review, Middle School Journal of Educational Administration, Peabody Journal of Education, Journal of School Psychology, Journal of Educational Public Relations, etc.

ARTHUR W. STELLAR, Ph.D.

CURRENT EDITORIAL BOARDS:

Editorial Board, "Journal of School Public Relations"

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: (Current List)

Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, Life Member, President 1994-1995,
Review Council 1997-2002
American Association of School Administrators, Life Member, Leadership for Learning Award
Kappa Delta Pi, Life Member
Phi Delta Kappa, Life Member
National Association of Elementary School Principals, Life Member
National Society for Study of Education
Harvard University Chapter, Phi Delta Kappa
Horace Mann League, Life Member, Past-President
Massachusetts Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents
Massachusetts Association for Education of Young Children
World Council for Curriculum and Instruction, Life Member
National Association for Education of Young Children, Life Member
Music Educators National Conference, Life Member
National Association for Gifted Children, Life Member
National Council for Teachers of English, Life Member
North American Chapter of the World Council for Curriculum and Instruction, former President
National Dropout Prevention Center/Network, Former Chairman of Board
Massachusetts Urban Superintendents
New England School Development Council
The Harvard University Round Table of Superintendents
National School Public Relations Association

CIVIC AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: (Current List)

Taunton Literacy Council
Taunton Area Chamber of Commerce
Fulbright Memorial Foundation, Life Member
Ohio University, Trustees Academy
World Future Society, Life Member
Ohio University Alumni Association
National Eagle Scout Association, Life Member
Tau Kappa Epsilon Alumni Association
Society of Alumni & Friends, College of Education, Ohio University

HONORS AND AWARDS:

- Awarded "Distinguished Service to Public Education" for promotion of technology in 2008 by JFYNetWorks
- Selected for Crystal Star Award for Excellence for Distinguished Service and Leadership in 2007 by the National Dropout Prevention Network/Center
- Selected by American Association of School Administrators for "Dr. Effie Jones Humanitarian Award" in 2007
- Named to Who's Who Among American Teachers & Educators, 2006-07
- Selected for "100 District Leaders for Civic Engagement and Service-Learning Network" by Education Commission of the States, 2006
- Selected as "Friend of Horace Mann League", 2006
- Inducted into Academic Hall of Fame, Linden McKinley High School, 2003
- Named to Who's Who in Executives and Professionals, 2003 -
- Elected Chairman of the Board,
National Dropout Prevention Center/Network 2002 - 2007
- Elected President of the Horace Mann League, 2001 - 2002
- Listed in International Who's Who of Public Service, 2000 -
- Selected as Fulbright Scholar to Argentina, 2000 - 2001
- Elected President - Elect of Horace Mann League, 2001
- Elected President of the North American Chapter of the World Council for Curriculum and Instruction, 2000-2002
- Elected Vice-President of Horace Mann League, 2000
- Chosen as Executive Board Member for the National Dropout Prevention Network, 1997 - 2003
- Selected Fulbright Memorial Fund Scholar by Japan - U.S. Educational Commission, 1998
- Honored with Life Membership in New York State Congress of Parent Teachers Association, 1998
- Elected as Vice-President of the New York State Congress of Parent Teacher Association, 1997 - 2001
- Elected to Board of Directors of the North American Chapter of the World Council for Curriculum and Instruction, 1997 - 2000
- Elected to the Review Council of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, 1997-2002
- Earned Horace Mann League Ambassador's Award in 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008
- Received the Boston Bilingual Parents Council's "Commitment to Quality Bilingual Programs" Award, 1995
- Selected to be a member of the Advisory Board for Who's Who in American Education, 1994
- Assumed leadership in 1994 of the 191,000 international membership of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development as President
- Received Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity; 1993 National Alumnus-of-Year, and Excellence in Education Award, 1993
- Elected to Board of Directors, Horace Mann League, 1993
- Elected as President-Elect of the 160,000 member Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, 1992 election
- Chosen as a Mentor for Harvard University's Urban Superintendent Preparation Program, 1992
- Received Kappa Delta Pi Award for Excellence in Education, 1992
- Received Rotary International "Community Leadership" Award, 1992
- Recognized by Oklahoma City Principals' Association for "Visionary Leadership," 1992
- Selected for Ohio University College of Education Award, 1991 Distinguished Alumnus Award, 1991

ARTHUR W. STELLAR, Ph.D.

- Selected for "Leadership for Learning" Award, American Association of School Administrators, 1991
- Selected by The College Board to receive the Advanced Placement Special Recognition Award, 1991
- Selected by Assistant Secretary of Education to serve on U.S. Department of Education's Urban Superintendents' Network, 1990 -1993
- Recognized by Oklahoma City Public Schools' Team Management Council with "Team Management Award," 1990 -1991
- Selected for Silver Beaver Award, Last Frontier Council, Boy Scouts of America, 1990
- Recognized by the Oklahoma Cambodian Community for "Support & Assistance Award," 1990
- Earned Rotary Club 29's Wheelhouse Award, 1990
- Elected to Executive Council for the 160,000 member Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, 1990
- Acknowledged by the Oklahoma Laotian Women's Association for "Exceptional Leadership," 1989
- Named by the Vietnamese-American Student Scholarship Award Committee as recipient for the "Support for Vietnamese-American Students Award," 1988-89
- Received Oklahoma Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development's Publication Award, 1989
- Received the Reading Award, Oklahoma Literacy Council, 1989
- Received the American Red Cross Appreciation Plaque, 1988
- Selected as Danforth Fellow, 1987 -1988
- Earned United Way's "Leadership Appreciation" Honor, 1987
- Selected for Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity Alumni National Hall of Fame, 1986
- Selected for Leadership Oklahoma City, 1986
- Selected as one of five superintendents nationally to be a part of the Superintendent's Exchange Program established by the American Association and the Canadian Association of School Administrators, 1985 -1986
- Selected for Who's Who in the World, 1986 -
- Selected for Who's Who in America, 1986 -
- Selected for membership in the 43rd Annual Superintendent's Work Conference at Teachers College, Columbia University
- Cited by Last Frontier Council Boy Scouts of American in "The Search for Excellence," 1986
- Received American Institute of Architects, Oklahoma Chapter's "Special Award," 1986
- Selected to be a member of the Advisory Board for Who's Who in the South and Southwest, 1985
- Selected for the Superintendent's Institute sponsored by Peabody College of Vanderbilt University, 1984
- Selected for Who's Who of Contemporary Achievement, 1984
- Elected to an at-large position on the Board of Directors of the 140,000 member Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, 1983
- Listed in Who's Who in the South and Southwest, 1984 -1993
- Listed in International Who's Who of Intellectuals, 1984
- Listed in Who's Who in Finance and Industry, 1983
- Listed in Men of Achievement, 1983
- Listed in Who's Who in American Education, 1988 -1989, 1993 -
- Listed in Dictionary of International Biography, 1988 -2000
- Designed several brochures which received awards in the 1982 annual contest sponsored by the National School Public Relations Association

ARTHUR W. STELLAR, Ph.D.

Selected by The Freedoms Foundation (and given a scholarship) to attend a week-long summer seminar at Valley Forge, PA, 1982

Selected as an Institute for Educational Leadership Policy Fellow to participate in a year long program, 1981 -1982

Listed in Who's Who in the Midwest, 1981, 1990, 1991

Listed in Who's Who in the East, 1980

Selected as a HEW Fellow, 1979-1980; however, declined this honor to pursue career goals

Selected as an I/D/E/A Fellow, by the Charles Kettering Foundation to attend a week-long summer seminar at Agnes Scott College in Atlanta, GA, 1978

Selected by the National Endowment for the Humanities to receive a stipend as a Humanities Fellow in July 1977

Named Honorary Fellow in Education Policy Studies at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, 1977

Selected as an I/D/E/A Fellow by the Charles Kettering Foundation to attend a week-long summer seminar at Stephens College in Missouri, 1976

Selected as an Outstanding Young Man in America by the U.S. Jaycees and the Outstanding Young Men in American Program, 1976

Recognized by the Ohio State Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa for "Outstanding Leadership," 1976

Listed in Community Leaders and Noteworthy Americans, 1975 edition

AREAS OF MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

Out of 22 Urban School Districts in Massachusetts, only three have made AYP two years in a row: Cambridge, Framingham and Taunton.

Out of 22 Urban Massachusetts School Districts; Taunton is #1 in English/Language Arts, Taunton #2 in math, #1 in student attendance and #22 (last) in funding.

Resolved \$4.5 million of "deficits" over two years and recommended budget cuts of another \$3.2 million (or 5% of total final budget) for 2007-08.

Reduced energy consumption and costs by over \$800,000 (received national Environmental Stewardship Award from Energy Education, Inc.)

INCREASED STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

(examples: Attacked NCLB by reducing the non-AYP areas from 42 to 17 in one year in Taunton and raised the overall percentage of proficient students in math by over 6% (38% to 61% proficient or advanced by grade) and in ELA by over 6% (55% to 80% proficient or advanced by grade) in two years; student test scores district-wide increased 20 percentile points in Oklahoma City, reducing the # of at-risk schools from 32 to 3; dropout rates declined in several districts; Advanced Placement and SAT scores rose (Oklahoma City, Boston, Shaker Heights, Kingston and Taunton), the number of National Merit Scholars more than doubled in Oklahoma City, also doubled the number of visual art winners along with 4 all-state chorus selections in Taunton, etc.)

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION

(examples: National and state recognition for a wide variety of curriculum programs; "Super Scholars," student contests, International Baccalaureate, upgraded High/Scope curriculum and assessment procedures with Reading Institute and other innovations, six out of thirty Federal awarded Early Reading First grants included High/Scope, prepared a successful \$1.4 million grant proposal by the Kellogg Foundation to design a "Ready Schools" assessment instrument, etc.)

STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION

(examples: Forty-four protégés named as superintendents, national awards for staff development, technology, and social studies; terminated dozens of unsatisfactory employees, created staff induction process and computer training at High/Scope, etc.)

PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

(examples: Nationally recognized planning expert; created the MCPS Comprehensive Planning & Budgeting Process; led merger/alliance with another foundation; new system for monitoring Federal/State funding sources and the development of proposals for High/Scope & Renaissance; taught administrators to develop effective improvement plans for schools, departments and themselves, etc.)

BUDGETING AND FINANCING TO REACH GOALS

(examples: Increased outside funding, i.e. \$2.4 million more in two years in Taunton, eliminated fiscal deficits in several districts, created new financial systems, 'one of the lowest administrative costs in New York', passed the first ever bond issue and budget in Kingston when 5 of 9 county school budgets were defeated by voters, 'increased sales and contract revenue at High/Scope Educational Research Foundation by over \$2 million', doubled the dollars obtained via grants to High/Scope, etc.)

PUBLIC RELATIONS, PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT AND BUILDING PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

(examples: Enhanced institutional image, parental participation in Oklahoma City increased by eight-fold with the number of school business adopters growing by 50 times, Kingston voters approved 4 annual budgets and a bond issue, clarified High/Scope's marketing share while opening new markets, hosted television shows, etc.)

MARKETING AND SALES

(examples: Authored positioning guides and led marketing campaigns for Renaissance Learning; trained inside and field sales; and participated in sales presentations including solo sales of approximately a million dollars to superintendents as part of my creation of demonstration districts, etc.)

PRODUCT MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

(examples: Identified problems/solutions for five Renaissance Learning products; produced and implemented a plan for the revitalization of StandardsMaster (a web-based formative assessment system aligned to state standards); established a two-way communication system with customers to collect feedback; etc.)

CIVIL AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

(examples: Chamber of Commerce Executive Committee; Boy Scout Silver Beaver Award, Educational Round Table of community leaders, Principal-for-a-Day, etc.)

DESEGREGATION AND INTEGRATION

(examples: Oklahoma City School District declared unitary after winning U.S. Supreme Court Case; created magnet schools, added diversity to every staff as superintendent or president, selected as Dr. Effie Jones Humanitarian Award winner by American Association of School Administrators, etc.)

DECLINING ENROLLMENT AND RESOURCES

(examples: Cut nine million dollars in Oklahoma City School budget, closed 33 schools, eliminated deficits and built surpluses, overcame \$4.5 million of unbudgeted projected expenditures in two years in Taunton, etc.)

LEADERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

(examples: Elected international President, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development; international consultant/speaker in Russia, India, Thailand, England, Belgium, Switzerland, Spain, Canada and Australia; President, North American Chapter of World Council on Curriculum and Instruction; President, Horace Mann League; Chairman, National Dropout Prevention Center/Network, etc.)

WRITING FOR PUBLICATION

(examples: Over 460 publications on a wide variety of topics, member of various editorial boards, guest editor for journal, etc.)

REFERENCES FOR ARTHUR W. STELLAR, Ph.D.

Mayor Charles Crowley*
Taunton City Hall
15 Summer Street
Taunton, MA 02780
office: 508-821-1000
home: 508-824-6137
email: mayor@tmlp.net

Former Mayor Robert Nunes*
15 Theresa Street
Taunton, MA 02780
home: 508-824-8472
office: 617-626-2300
email: nunesr@dor.state.ma.us

*Chairs at School Board Meetings
(called School Committee in Massachusetts)

Former President of Oklahoma City, OK School Board
Kay Floyd
2401 NW 119th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73120-7407
home: 405-755-0418
office: 405-949-1495

Former President of Kingston, NY School Board
Clayton Van Kleeck
893 Neighborhood Road
Lake Katrine, NY 12449
home: 845-336-8404
office: 845-382-1292

MA State Teachers' Union Representative
Ellen Suarez
90 New State Highway, Suite 150
Raynham, MA 02767
office: 508-822-5371
email: esuarez@massteacher.org

Immediate Past President, Taunton Education Association (Teacher's Union)
Ann Benedetti

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