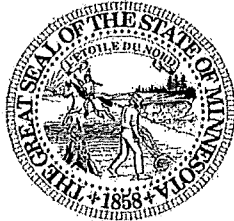


STATE OF MINNESOTA



TIM WALZ
GOVERNOR

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JAN 09 2019

President of the Senate

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Mary Cathryn Ricker

1500 Highway 36 West
Roseville, MN 55113
County of Ramsey
Congressional District 4

Because of the special trust and confidence I have in your integrity, judgment, and ability, I have appointed and commissioned you to have and to hold the office of:

COMMISSIONER

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

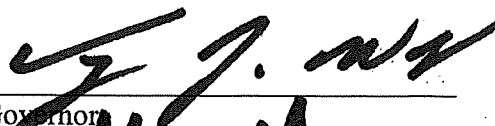

Effective: January 7, 2019

Term Expires: January 2, 2023

This appointment carries with it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol in the City of Saint Paul, January 7, 2019.




Governor

Secretary of State

Replacing: Brenda Cassellius

Mary Cathryn D. Ricker
1500 Highway 36 West
Roseville, MN 55113
651.558.6205
mde.commissioner@state.mn.us

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President of the Senate

Employment History

Executive vice-president, American Federation of Teachers (AFT)

2014-present. Serving alongside the President and the Secretary/Treasurer as one of three officers of the 1.7 million member national union of professional in five divisions: teachers, paraprofessionals, nurse and health care workers, higher education faculty and staff, and public employees. First elected in 2014, and currently serving in the first year of my third term.

- Leadership responsibilities include:
 - Professionalism Task Force,
 - Gun Violence Prevention Advisory Committee,
 - AFT Innovation Fund,
 - Program and Policy Council division liaison
- Advocacy responsibilities include:
 - Refugee children at the border,
 - Comprehensive immigration reform,
 - English language learners,
 - Member/staff working group for Native American advocacy,
 - Alternate on the US Department of Education ESSA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee.

President, Saint Paul Federation of Teachers(Educators), Local 28 (SPFT)

2005-14. I was Chief executive officer for the union of 3,600 professionals. I was elected by our membership, presided over all functions and decision-making bodies, carried out the duties, responsibilities, and purpose of the SPFT Constitution and by-laws; supervised 5 employees and maintained oversight of the entire union program including member advocacy, negotiations, legislative and political action, organizing, and education issues. Served as the representative and official spokesperson to the legislature, Minnesota Department of Education, city government, community and civic groups.

While president, pioneered the concept of bargaining for the common good, which addressed contract language such as citizenship leave and a school nurse for every child, and she championed innovative, teacher-built solutions that improve teaching and learning as well as strengthen public education. These include the union's alternative teacher recruitment and licensure program, CareerTeacher; a full-spectrum peer assistance and review program; site-based school redesign and governance; a parent-teacher home visit project; comprehensive professional development; PSRP pathways to teaching and dedicated PSRP professional development; and meaningful community engagement as the union's work.

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Advocacy and Policy Accomplishments include:

- Won an inaugural American Federation of Teachers Innovation Fund grant for \$270,000 for the union to develop CareerTeacher an innovative, union-led teacher recruitment and alternative licensing pathway for traditionally under-represented populations and hard-to-staff license areas
- Appointed by AFT President Randi Weingarten to serve on the AFT ad hoc Teacher Evaluation Development Committee resulting in the AFT Framework for Continuous Teacher Support and Evaluation, 2009-10
- Appointed by AFT President Randi Weingarten to serve on the AFT ad hoc Committee on (Common Core State) Standards Rollout, 2010
- Locally negotiated full-spectrum peer assistance and review program, a comprehensive & career-long teacher support and evaluation system
- Locally negotiated a commitment to create a process for site-governed schools in St. Paul
- Negotiated with the Minnesota Department of Education for inclusion of the following in Minnesota's *Race to the Top* application:
 - full-spectrum peer assistance and review,
 - CareerTeacher alternative teacher licensing program,
 - Progressive, evidence-based decision-making for equitable distribution of high quality teachers including statewide work and dissemination of the New Teacher Center *Teaching & Learning Conditions Survey*,
 - parent/family involvement including statewide support for AFT ER&D coursework: *School, Family, Community*;
 - relevant statewide effective professional development through AFT's *Making Data Work for You*,
 - Minnesota's unique site-governed schools law as a qualified, featured option for school transformation.
- Attracted four Federal Investing in Innovation (i3) fund grant opportunities for union and district collaboration Saint Paul Public Schools around continuous teacher support and evaluation through full-spectrum peer assistance & review and the *Common Core State Standards Initiative*
- Negotiated restructuring language that brings real power and innovation to school communities labeled 'in need of restructuring' or 'persistently low-performing'
- Promoted union-led professional development leading to over 10 local course offerings, an annual professional conference attracting over 300 educators each year since 2005, and over 25 members trained in professional development advocacy
- Piloted National Board of Professional Teaching Standards *Take One!* process at Highwood Hills Elementary School

Teacher, American Federation of Teachers (Sana'a, Yemen), 2008. Selected to provide organizing assistance and professional development regarding classroom management, time on task, and effective instruction to Yemeni Teachers Syndicate, and the General Union of Teaching and Education Professionals.

Teacher, St. Paul Public Schools (St. Paul, Minnesota), 2000-2005. Taught 7th and 8th grade English/language arts, served on the site staff development committee, chaired the staff development committee, was named the district model English classroom for disciplinary literacy, appointed to the SPPS/SPFT Career in Education Board, trained as a trainer for 6+1 Writing Traits professional development, coached Destination Imagination team.

Teacher, St. Cloud Public Schools (St. Cloud, Minnesota), 1992-94 and 1998-2000. Taught 7-9th grade English/language arts, named to district Academic Achievement Advisory committee, site Academic Achievement coordinator, district professional development coach for classroom management and brain-based learning, calendar committee, middle school team leader, professional development school design team, coached middle school tennis and basketball, elected government relations representative for the St. Cloud Education Association.

Teacher, Wonderland Language Academy (Seoul, South Korea), 1997-98. Taught English as a Second Language to pre-school through high school students in a private language academy, wrote curriculum for articulation from one level to the next, completed 3 months of an unfinished Fulbright exchange at a local all-boys high school.

Teacher, Camas Public Schools (Camas, Washington), 1994-1997. Taught 7th grade English and math, named to site and district Essential Exit Requirements (Standards) committee, piloted Essential Exit Requirements for district and state, served as reader/scorer for Oregon State Math Assessment, elected Secretary of the Camas Education Association.

License and Certification

- Licensed 7-12 English/language arts, State of Minnesota File Folder # 337249
- National Board Certification Early Adolescent English/language arts, 2004, renewed 2014

Professional Affiliations

- Minnesota Council of Teachers of English. *Board member 2003-05*
- Minnesota Writing Project, *Advisory Board Director 2002*
- St. Paul Public Schools Foundation member, *Board of Directors. 2006-2014*
- Greater Twin Cities United Way Board of Directors, *member. 2006-2014.*
 - Chair, GTCUW Education Committee 2010-14.
- Education Minnesota, *Governing Board member, 2005-present.*
- Education Minnesota Foundation for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, *President 2007-13.*
- St. Paul Regional Labor Federation, *Delegate 2001-14.*
- Minnesota AFL-CIO, *General Board vice-president, 2003-2014.*
- American Federation of Teachers, K-12 Teachers Program and Policy Council, 2006-14.
- American Federation of Teachers, Women's Rights Committee, 2008-14.

- National Democratic Institute, Board of Directors, 2014-2018.
- National Board of Professional Teaching Standards, Board of Directors, 2013-present.
- United Way USA, Board of Directors, 2015-present.
- The Albert Shanker Institute, Board of Directors, 2013-present
- The AFL-CIO Department for Professional Employees, Board of Directors, Treasurer, 2014-present.
- Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation, AFT representative to the Board of Directors, 2015-present
- EdTPA Advisory Board, AFT representative, 2015-present.
- US Department of Education ESSA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee, Alternate 2015-16

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Education

- Hibbing High School, Hibbing, Minnesota
- University of Saint Thomas, Saint Paul, Minnesota: Bachelor of Arts, English major/mathematics minor, secondary teaching certification
- University of Minnesota: coursework Master in Education, Teacher Leadership with Professional Development certification

President of the Senate

Awards, Recognition & Representation

- **Minnesota Writing Project Fellow.** Selected to participate in the 2002 Minnesota Writing Project Selective Summer Institute.
- **National Board Certification,** Early Adolescent English/language arts 2004.
- **Write in the Middle Instructor,** Selected to be featured in the Annenberg Foundation's professional development video series for middle school writing instruction. Filmed in 2004, currently available, and broadcast on the Annenberg Channel.
- **NEA Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence** semi-finalist, 2005
- **St. Paul Public Schools Representative,** International Benchmarking Study Tour, 2005. One of three teachers selected by the Superintendent of Schools to accompany her to London, England to research international benchmarking standards with the British Council.
- **AFT Representative,** Middle East Study Tour, 2007. One of six leaders selected by the president of the American Federation of Teachers to study the ability of democratic trade unions to stabilize or introduce democracy to countries in the Middle East.
- **AFT Representative,** Finland Study Tour, 2012 with National Public Education Support Fund. Studied Finland's public education system with Pasi Sahlberg.
- **Peterson-Schaubach Outstanding Leadership Award,** 2013
- **Mary McGough Leadership Award,** 2014
- **Education Representative,** Neuss, Germany Sister City Exchange, 2007. Manzanillo, Mexico Sister City Exchange 2010. Invited by Saint Paul Mayor Chris Coleman to be the education representative in Sister-city delegation.