

September 20, 2016

Mr. Michael I. Green  
President  
West Virginia Board of Education  
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East  
Building. 6, Room 617  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Dear Mr. Green:

It is with a heavy heart that I write this letter to inform you that I will be resigning from my position as State Superintendent of Schools for the state of West Virginia, effective June 30, 2017. This past year has been one of the most challenging of my adult life. With the prolonged illness of my wife and her eventual death, I now find myself being both a dad and a mom to my three children who reside in Maryland. After much prayer and consultation with my family, I have come to the conclusion that I must be geographically closer to them. My resignation will allow that to occur and it will allow me to pursue other employment opportunities near them. Additionally, by announcing my resignation at this time, the West Virginia Board of Education will be afforded the needed time to conduct a search for a new State Superintendent of Schools.

I have been honored and humbled to serve as the 30<sup>th</sup> State Superintendent of Schools for the state of West Virginia. It has been a privilege to work with a very dedicated Governor, West Virginia Board of Education and Legislature. The professionalism, dedication and talent of our teachers, principals, superintendents, service personnel, local Boards of Education, the West Virginia Department of Education staff and our parents have impressed me. However, I have been most awed by our very respectful, genuine, and wonderful students. I have continually basked in their reflective glory as they have provided me with much hope and optimism for a brighter future.

Simply put, thank you for allowing me to serve the young people of West Virginia. Together, we have accomplished much on their behalf and I will continue to work tirelessly during my remaining year to carry out our core mission of ensuring a world-class education for all students in West Virginia.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Martirano, Ed.D.  
State Superintendent of Schools

cc: Governor Earl Ray Tomblin  
Members, West Virginia Board of Education  
Senator David Sypolt  
Delegate Paul Espinosa