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## **MAYOR NUTTER WELCOMES ARLENE ACKERMAN AS CHOICE FOR CEO OF SCHOOLS**

*Philadelphia, February 19, 2008* - Mayor Michael Nutter joined Governor Rendell today in welcoming the School Reform Commission's choice of Dr. Arlene Ackerman as the next CEO of the School District of Philadelphia. Governor Rendell and Mayor Nutter had been invited into the decision-making process by the School Reform Commission, helping the Commission to select Dr. Ackerman from the field of finalists.

"The Governor and I believe that Dr. Arlene Ackerman is the best candidate to lead Philadelphia Public Schools," said Mayor Nutter. "She came up through the ranks as a teacher, principal, and superintendant and really knows how to make schools work."

Dr. Ackerman was the only candidate in contention who had experience running a school district. From 2000 to 2006 she ran San Francisco's schools and from 1998 to 2000 she was superintendant of schools for Washington, D.C. These experiences have made Dr. Ackerman well-versed in creating systems that target resources to the schools that need them the most, by creating new funding formulas that are fairer and serve students better.

She will also take clear and deliberate steps to put the district's fiscal house in order by ensuring that the system operates in an ethical manner. During her interview process, Dr. Ackerman vowed that she would prove that she could handle resources well before asking citizens for additional funding.

Most recently Dr. Ackerman was the Christian A. Johnson Professor of Outstanding Educational Practice at Columbia University's Teachers College and is a nationally regarded instructional leader. Dr. Ackerman received her doctorate from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, Urban Superintendents Program. She also has a Master of Arts in Education from Harvard University, a Master of Arts in Educational Administration and Policy from Washington University, St. Louis, MO and a Bachelors degree in Elementary Education from Harris Stowe Teachers College.