

## PDK INTERNATIONAL AND EDUCATORS RISING STANDS READY TO HELP THE BIDEN/HARRIS ADMINISTRATION IMPROVE PUBLIC EDUCATION

On behalf of PDK International and Educators Rising, we extend congratulations to President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris. We are also very pleased that our next first lady, Dr. Jill Biden, is an educator.

For more than a century, PDK members have been elevating the teaching profession through a collective commitment to intellectual honesty at the intersection of research, policy, and practice. We have sought to ask the right questions and bring evidence to bear on the pressing issues of public education. For 52 years, our annual poll has helped our country's federal, state, and local leaders understand what Americans truly want to see in our public schools. Now, more than ever, we need to focus on what works to improve public education as our nation bridges divides in our local communities and throughout our country. We are excited at the prospect of a presidential administration that shares our belief that public education is the cornerstone of our democracy and should be strengthened and supported to better serve more of our children, families, and communities.

Our Educators Rising program inspires young people to serve their communities as highly skilled educators, and few public figures are as inspiring as Vice Presidentelect Kamala Harris. Fifty-two percent of our Educators Rising members are students of color, and we know that Harris stands as an example to us all of what's possible when you receive a great education and commit to public service. We are thrilled to support the Biden/Harris administration as it seeks to increase the diversity of the profession and address the teacher shortage.

PDK and Educators Rising members are also eager to help the Biden/Harris administration with the pressing issue of getting kids back to school as soon as possible. And we support the administration's call for unity, for increasing federal funds to help the most vulnerable, and for making decisions based on evidence.

Congratulations again to President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris. We stand ready to help you improve public education for all of our nation's children.

Angela JE Walmakey, PhD

Dr. Angela L.E. Walmsley Board Chair PDK International

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