

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Delaine Eastin Endorses John McGinnis for Long Beach USD School Board

LONG BEACH, CA (October 5, 2009) - Delaine Eastin, former State Superintendent of Public Instruction, today endorsed John McGinnis for a seat on the Long Beach Unified Board of Education.

In her endorsement Eastin said, "John McGinnis is the right choice for a very important job at a difficult time. John is not only a brilliant educator but he has courage, vision, heart and a brass backbone. He has my full support to be a member of the Long Beach School Board. I trust he will be a great school board member."

Many of Eastin's accomplishments are reflected today in Long Beach schools. As State Superintendent she advocated for the allocation of 2.5 billion dollars for class size reduction. She succeeded in adopting statewide standards in reading and math. And she pressed for greater school accountability and statewide testing.

Her great passion is seeing children become successful readers. She fought tirelessly for strong school library programs in every school to ensure students would become lifelong learners. In the 1996-97 school year, she and John McGinnis partnered on a statewide reading promotional program called "Pop Open a Book!" As a result of their efforts California school children read nearly 100 million books that year.

Prior to her leadership as Superintendent of Public Instruction, Eastin served four terms in the State Assembly from 1986 to 1994, where she was Chair of the Assembly Committee on Education.

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