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## West Virginia Chamber Calls for Thorough Search for New State Superintendent of Schools

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Charleston, W.Va. – Following the announcement earlier today that State Superintendent of Schools Steve Paine will retire by June 30<sup>th</sup>, the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce is calling for the West Virginia Board of Education to conduct a thorough search for Dr. Paine's successor.

West Virginia Chamber President Steve Roberts stated, "Education is the cornerstone of West Virginia. Ensuring that every child receives a world-class education is one of the most important goals for society. I urge the members of the West Virginia Board of Education to leave no stone unturned in the quest to find a collaborative and innovative leader who has the vision to solve the challenges and problems we face and set a course for superior schools. Ideally, such a person should have a track record for continuous improvement."

Roberts added, "We face many challenges in West Virginia, but none are insurmountable. Key positions such as these are of vital importance to providing the necessary leadership to take our state to the next level. The task that is now before the Board is probably the single-most important role of the West Virginia Board of Education: hiring the individual who will lead West Virginia's public education system."

Roberts concluded, "I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Dr. Paine for his commitment to public service in West Virginia, and for his two terms serving the public schools. I wish him nothing but the best as he begins this next chapter in his life."

Members of the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce are your small business neighbors. Chamber members employ over half of our state's workforce and are found in every county and region of our state.