# PERSONAL INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full Name (Last, First, M.I.)</th>
<th>Preferred Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evers, Williamson M.</td>
<td>Bill Evers</td>
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<tr>
<th>TCH NUMBER (Educator Certificate), if applicable</th>
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<th>Address (Residence)</th>
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Email Address:

Home / Cell Telephone Number

I agree to be subject to a background check.

I understand that the *Notice of Interest Packet* and accompanying documentation are considered to be public documents.

I certify that the information submitted with this packet is true and correct and that I have read the General Information and Instructions included herein.

I acknowledge that providing incorrect information may result in my disqualification as a candidate or my removal as the State Superintendent of Education.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Williamson M. Evers</td>
<td>June 3, 2016</td>
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Dear Members of the Board,

I would very much like to be considered for the post of State Superintendent of Education.

I have a number of connections to Alabama:

*My ancestors on my mother’s side came from Demopolis;

*I am also a relative of Octavia Walton Le Vert (1811 – 1877), who was one of the first female Southern writers to achieve national recognition (There is a section of Oakleigh historic-house museum in Mobile devoted to her and her accomplishments);

*My wife went to high school in Mobile, while her father (an Air Force general) was Commander of the Mobile Air Materiel Area, headquartered at Brookley Air Force Base;

*I taped a program on education policy for Alabama Public Television in early 2014; and

*My brother-in-law James Drake created the nationally-recognized sculptures in Birmingham’s Kelly Ingram Park that are of the police dogs and high-pressure hoses that faced civil rights demonstrators.

I have experience in management:

*As a U.S. Department of Defense civilian (Senior Executive Service), I ran, with colleagues, the K-12 school system in Iraq (about six million students) [here is a link to a Wall Street Journal op-ed that I wrote on my Iraq experience: http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB107412794297711300];

*I managed an office within the U.S. Department of Education (about 115 civil servants and about ten political appointees) and was part of the Secretary’s departmental management team and part of her informal kitchen cabinet – part of my office was Budget Services which drew up and oversaw the budget for the entire Department;

*Recognizing the importance of Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama, I would note that while I was U.S. Assistant Secretary of Education, I supervised the creation of a new staff slot for an Education Department liaison to the Pentagon’s Defense Education Activity; and
*At the local level, I have been the president of the board of directors of a highly successful charter school in a low-income area and was an elected member of a county board of education (the county includes Silicon Valley and the city of San Jose).

Also, my wife served for eight years on the school board of the highest-performing large school district in California.

I enjoy challenges and look forward to the work of improving academic performance in Alabama. I am simultaneously mindful of the recent slide in NAEP scores. I have served as a member of Hoover Institution’s prestigious research group, the Koret Task Force on K-12 Education, and I have written research articles on curriculum, teaching, testing, accountability, and school finance. I recognize and respect the fundamental importance of local control and local knowledge. At the same time, it is valuable to have a state superintendent who is familiar with research and has a good sense of which proposed reforms are likely to be helpful and which a waste of money or even counterproductive.

Alabama presents opportunities for growth in student achievement, reducing the achievement gap, and improving preparation of students for jobs and higher learning. Alabama’s children deserve a bright future and the opportunity to live up to their potential. I look forward to working closely with the State Board of Education; to working together with parents, teachers, administrators, and other community members to make that possible; and to serving as State Superintendent.

Thank you for considering my application, and I would be glad to supply further information upon request.

Sincerely yours,

Williamson M. Evers, Ph.D.

Research Fellow,

Hoover Institution
WILLIAMSON MOORE EVERS

Hoover Institution
Stanford University

CURRENT POSITION

Research Fellow, Hoover Institution, Stanford University, 1995-present

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political Science, Stanford University, 1987.
B.A., Political Science, Stanford University, 1972.

PUBLICATIONS


RESEARCH & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Associate Professor, Political Science, Santa Clara University, 1995-98.

National Fellow and Visiting Scholar, Hoover Institution, Stanford University, 1988-94.

Visiting Assistant Professor, Political Science, Emory University, 1987-88.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES


Contributing Editor, School Reform News, Heartland Institute, 2011-present.

Commissioner, Academic Standards Commission, State of California, 2010. (Gubernatorial appointment.)


Member, Instructional Materials Review Committee, Capistrano (Calif.) Unified School District, 2009-2014.

Delegate and Presenter, Education Symposium, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation. Xi’an, China, Jan. 15-17, 2008.


Member, Advisory Board, Stanford-Iraq Student Exchange, Stanford University, 2005-2007.


Reviewer (history, geography, government), TAKS Readiness and Core Knowledge program, University of Texas System, Feb. 2004.


Member, Grades 10-11 Social Studies Standard-Setting Advisory Panel (test-grading guidelines), Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills, State of Texas, 2002.


Consultant (on testing), Texas Education Agency (state department of education), 2002.


Member, Koret Task Force on K–12 Education, Hoover Institution, 1999-2014.

Member, Advisory Board, California History-Social Science Project. Office of the President, University of California System, 1999-2007.


ADDITIONAL CIVIC ACTIVITIES


[6/16]
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**Term of Graduation**: 1998-1999 Winter
June 7, 2016

Ms. Juliana Dean
General Counsel
Alabama State Board of Education
50 North Ripley Street
P.O. Box 302101
Montgomery, Alabama 36104

Dear Ms. Dean:

I am writing to recommend Bill Evers to you for the role of Alabama’s State Superintendent of Education.

I met Bill during my term as U.S. Secretary of Education. In 2007, Bill served as my Senior Adviser. Later that year, he was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as Assistant Secretary for Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development, a role he held until January 2009.

As the head of the Office of Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development, Bill oversaw planning, evaluation, policy development, and budget activities in the U.S. Department of Education. He coordinated these activities with other principal offices in the Department of Education as well as with outside organizations such as Congress, the Office of Management and Budget, and state education agencies.

I am confident that Bill has the capabilities necessary to succeed as State Superintendent of Education. I wish him luck in his candidacy for the role.

If I can provide any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Margaret Spellings
President
Dear:  Alabama State Board of Education

I am pleased to submit this letter of recommendation on behalf of Dr. Williamson Evers as candidate for Alabama’s State Superintendent of Education. I have known Dr. Evers (Bill) since the late 1990s when I worked with him on California’s State Academic Standards. He was an appointed member of the Commission, my non-profit organization, StandardsWork was contracted to facilitate those deliberations; I was the math facilitator. Then, as now, discussions around standards were often contentious. Bill was always both prepared and forthright; he was also persistent and often charming.

I saw these qualities in a much more intense environment when he and I served as co-leaders of the civilian Department of Defense team chosen to help re-establish the Iraqi K-12 system. Based in Baghdad, the working environment was unconventional in that many responsibilities were shared between civilian and military (and the many other governmental and non-governmental organizations) operating in what were the remains of a war zone. Bill showed that he could work in challenging conditions, (outside our protected offices) there was no reliable phone system, Internet, or postal system. Bill was energetic and resourceful, drawing on his broad knowledge of educational research on teaching, curriculum, and other school topics to inform our work with Iraqi teachers and Administrators.

When we had to assemble costs of school items and equipment (for an international donor’s conference) he participated in the complex process of costing out materials; when we had to adjust budgets, he negotiated with the Finance Office and he was also the official who signed off on provincial payrolls every month. The work required that he negotiate with the staff of Ambassador Paul Bremer, (the administrator of the Coalition Provisional Authority), US and UK military officers, Iraqi religious figures, US AID and World Bank officials. Many of these people rotated in and out so that relationships were constantly being established and lost; then rebuilt again. In the first two months, we got the schools reopened and students were able to take their end of year exams, creating the first sense of normalcy in a very long time. Bill was a central figure in making that happen. He also advised the newly appointed Education Minister as he planned for restructuring the Ministry and creating a Four-Year Plan for Iraqi Education. In all of this, Bill worked well with Administrators in the Provinces, with Iraqi expatriates on the Master Teacher training, we were developing, and listened to the incredibly diverse points of view in this turbulent land, before advising on actions to be taken.

Some years later, when Bill became Assistant Secretary of Education for Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development and I was Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy, I worked with him, when he was supervising the creation of a new U.S Department of Education personnel slot dedicated to liaison with DOD’s school System, DODEA. For decades, there had been no official acknowledgement or support in the US Department of Education for military-affiliated children, who move repeatedly during their k-12 years.

Bill has a keen intellect, is extremely knowledgeable and is hard working. He and I do not always agree and have not agreed about the value of the Common Core state standards. But, I am confident that he will be dedicated to using research-based best practices to improve student achievement in Alabama and that he will be highly-motivated to empower a diverse student body and staff.
Sincerely,

Leslye Arsht

Leslye A. Arsh | Co-Founder | StandardsWork, Inc.

ATT00001.htm was deleted because it violated corporate security policy.
June 5, 2016

Dear: Alabama State Board of Education

I am pleased to submit this letter of recommendation on behalf of Dr. Williamson Evers as candidate for Alabama’s State Superintendent of Education. I have known Dr. Evers (Bill) since the late 1990s when I worked with him on California’s State Academic Standards. He was an appointed member of the Commission, my non-profit organization, StandardsWork was contracted to facilitate those deliberations; I was the math facilitator. Then, as now, discussions around standards were often contentious. Bill was always both prepared and forthright; he was also persistent and often charming.

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Sincerely,

Leslye A. Arsh t | Co-Founder | StandardsWork, Inc.
For Alabama State Superintendent of Education Williamson Moore Evers

Attention Juliana Dean
General Counsel

I am writing a letter of recommendation to you on behalf of a personal friend and a Research Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, William Moore Evers.
I have served on the Board of Benefactors and am long time member of that Institution and have attended many lectures given by Bill as well as read many of his papers on Education as part of Hoover’s Koret Task Force on K-12 education...
Too, I am continually delighted to find his columns on education in the New York Time, Wall Street Journal and other national publications...

I am certain that Bill has submitted his CV for your evaluation so I need not go into that in this letter as it covers many pages but my recommendation of Bill to fill the position of State Superintendent of Education is based on my personal knowledge of him as a hands on, dedicated and wise member of his many communities --- civic, educational, business and in positions of responsibility within those areas...

On a personal basis, I am the owner of a woods products company in Clarke County where we employ many locals whose children attend the schools in Grove Hill, Thomasville and Jackson which are part of the educational system of the state of Alabama ... I know that Bill, as Superintendent of Education for the State of Alabama, would assure a strong educational base for those children and for the future of the State and our Nation... I strongly recommend him to that position ..... 

Thank you for you kind attention to this

Kay Harrigan Woods
Chairman, Scotch Plywood Company
101 Main Street
Fulton, Alabama, 36446

Sent from my iPad
June 2, 2016

Via Email (packet@alsde.edu) only

Attention: Juliana Dean, Esq.
Office of the General Counsel
Alabama State Board of Education
Post Office Box 302101
Montgomery AL 36130-2101

Re: Williamson M. Evers – Letter of Reference

Dear Members of the State Board of Education:

It was with a great deal of pleasure that I learned today that Williamson Evers, Research Fellow at the Hoover Institution, has submitted or plans to submit a Notice of Interest Packet for appointment as State Superintendent of Education for the State of Alabama. I can recommend and vouch for him, without reservation.

I have known Bill, followed his work, and participated in various conferences with him going back to the 1970s, and he has always impressed me, and, I believe, all who have worked with him, with his scholarly brilliance and his presentation of complex issues with fairness and insightful analysis. He is an expert on fixing failing schools. I especially call your attention to his writings over the last dozen or so years on state-federal relations, effective teaching, accountability, and curriculum-content standards.

Many years ago, Bill took note that I was an Alabamian, and he has always had a great interest in Alabama history and its culture. He and his wife, Anna, have visited my family in Alabama, and he and I have communicated over the years on various matters of Alabama history. That one of his lineal ancestors migrated into Alabama along the Federal Road in 1818 is, I believe, a contributing factor in that interest.

The undersigned is former Chief of Policy and Senior Staff Counsel to the Chairman of the Interstate Commerce Committee (during the second Reagan administration) and since 1990 has been engaged in the private practice of law in Gulf Shores, Alabama.

With best regards, I am

Yours very truly,

Jule R. Herbert Jr.
Attn: Juliana Dean, General Counsel

I am writing to recommend Williamson M. (Bill) Evers for the position of State Superintendent of Education in Alabama. I am currently Counsel with the Houston, Texas school law firm of Thompson & Horton LLP. Prior to that I served as CEO of AVID Center based in San Diego, Superintendent of Schools in Richardson, TX and as Commissioner of Education in Texas. I first met Bill while serving as Commissioner in Texas from 1999 to 2002. We later served together as Senior Advisors to the Iraqi Ministry of Education in 2003.

Bill's experience with the Hoover Institution, his vast writings and public service make his exceptionally well suited to serve as your state's Superintendent. Having served in a similar role, I believe he has the character and knowledge to help move Alabama's education system forward.

I would be happy to visit with you or any of the board members further if it would be helpful.

Jim Nelson

Sent from my iPad