



TIM GRIFFIN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

March 9, 2016

Toyce Newton
Chair, State Board of Education
Four Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Ms. Newton,

I am writing concerning the State Board of Education meeting on Thursday, March 10, 2016, to ask that you not exercise your right of review pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-23-703(a), allowing the Charter Authorizing Panel's decisions of February 17-February 19, 2016, to stand.

Educating our students is incredibly important to me. I, like most parents, want my son and daughter to receive the best education possible. As your lieutenant governor, and the father of two young children in the Little Rock public school system, I understand that parents are the best judge of where their children should be educated and want a choice in education. I am a proponent of school choice, and I believe variety and competition in education is a good thing. Choice leads to competition. Competition leads to innovation. Innovation leads to excellence.

Charter schools empower parents by expanding their child's educational options. They also provide students with a better chance to reach their potential. I encourage the State Board of Education to support the development and expansion of charter schools.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at my office at (501) 682-2144 if you want to speak further about this.

Thank!
gr.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Griffin".

Tim Griffin
Lieutenant Governor