

## F. PHILIP HANDY

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January 19, 2007

Governor Charlie Crist  
Office of the Governor  
The Capitol  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor Crist,

I would like to ask you to withdraw my name from consideration as an appointee to the State Board of Education.

In October, 2006, I was pleased to respond to the request of both Governor Bush and T. Willard Fair to continue my service on the State Board. However, your decision to withdraw Governor Bush's appointments that had not been confirmed by the State Senate has provided me with the opportunity to reflect on my continuing service.

That reflection has led me to decide against standing for re-nomination. Notwithstanding, it is my sincere hope that T. Willard Fair will continue to maintain his leadership role on the State Board. I would also like to provide another nominee the opportunity to carry on the State Board's great work.

As you may know, I have accepted a unique role with Senator John McCain to serve as the Chair of his National Policy Committee on Education. I will continue to serve as the Vice Chairman of the National Board of Education Sciences (a Presidential appointment requiring U.S. Senate confirmation). Additionally, I will continue to serve on Hoover Institution's Board of Overseers.

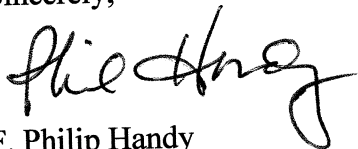
I am especially pleased to take my experience and expertise to these and other venues, which will give me a substantive and relevant role in pursuing education reforms on a national platform.

It has been a thrill to be part of Florida's educational reform experience. To have been engaged in this effort from the beginning is particularly rewarding. It has been an honor and joy to participate in some of America's most unique

fundamental changes in public education. I believe these efforts will enhance student achievement and promote better opportunities for the future of our children. I take with me wonderful memories and a profound sense of fulfillment. I thank my fellow Board members, Commissioner Winn and the dedicated people in the Department of Education, the legislative leadership who acted as our partners throughout, and Governor Bush for making such an opportunity possible.

I wish you and your administration the very best in your pursuit and implementation of a "world class public education system". I am available to assist you at any time in the future, as I did during your campaign for Governor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "F. Philip Handy". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

F. Philip Handy