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Contact: Tom Weber
617-330-7389 (Office)
617-669-3678 (Cell)
tweber@earlyeducationforall.org

EARLY EDUCATION FOR ALL CAMPAIGN STATEMENT ON SELECTION OF PAUL REVILLE AS SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

BOSTON – The Early Education for All Campaign (EEA) commended Governor Deval L. Patrick for appointing Paul Reville as the Commonwealth’s Secretary of Education.

Amy O’Leary, EEA Campaign Director, commented, “Paul Reville is uniquely qualified to oversee the next phase of education reform, including implementation of universally-accessible, high-quality pre-kindergarten and full-day kindergarten. As a member of the Early Education for All Campaign’s Advisory Committee and throughout his career as an educational leader, Paul Reville has demonstrated an unrelenting commitment to ensuring that every child has the skills necessary to be successful in school and in life. The Campaign applauds Governor Patrick on this appointment and looks forward to working with Secretary Reville, the Patrick Administration, and the Legislature to advance our shared vision of ‘early education for all.’”

Early education opportunities have a lifetime impact on young learners in terms of greater academic readiness, higher test scores, and improved social skills. Low-income children who participate in two years of high-quality early education programs are 40% less likely to need special education or be held back a grade, 30% more likely to graduate from high school, and twice as likely to go to college. The Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis estimates a 16% return for every dollar invested in high-quality pre-kindergarten programs. Currently three states have universal pre-kindergarten, while 14 states and the District of Columbia are moving toward universal pre-kindergarten. Last year, 36 states increased investments in pre-kindergarten.

The Early Education for All Campaign is a growing coalition of leaders from business, early childhood, labor, religion, health care, education, and philanthropy, working in partnership with families, grassroots leaders, and state policymakers to make high-quality pre-kindergarten education and full-day public school kindergarten available to every Massachusetts child. The specific goals of the Campaign are to ensure:

- Voluntary, universally accessible, high-quality pre-kindergarten for every child delivered through a mix of public and private programs;
- Voluntary, universally accessible, high-quality full school-day public kindergarten for every child; and
- A statewide system to improve the training, education and compensation of the early childhood workforce.

The Early Education for All Campaign is an initiative of [Strategies for Children, Inc.](http://www.strategiesforchildren.org), a non profit organization based in Boston. Its mission is to improve the well being of children and their families through public policy, advocacy, constituency building, and public awareness.

For more information, visit www.earlyeducationforall.org.