



THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20202

**IN RECOGNITION OF
SCHOOL BOARD APPRECIATION MONTH
IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**

February 2010

I am pleased to join in recognizing School Board Appreciation Month in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

President Barack Obama and I believe that preparing young people for success in life is both a moral obligation of society and an economic imperative for our country. I appreciate the important work of our nation's school boards as they seek to give our students better opportunities through education. Their efforts to ensure the safety and well-being of students while working to provide them with a high-quality education reach the entire community.

The President has written about the unfinished work of perfecting our country – a responsibility that falls to each of us. "It's a charge we pass on to our children, coming closer with each new generation to what we know America should be." School boards play a special role in this effort and touch many, many lives in the process.

Please accept my appreciation for the work of the school boards in the Commonwealth of Virginia and my best wishes for the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arne Duncan".

Arne Duncan