

John J. Sullivan
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<u>johnj.sullivan@browardschools.com</u> <u>www.browardschools.com</u> The School Board of Broward County, Florida

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## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I strongly recommend Zoie Saunders as the next Secretary of Education for Vermont. Having had the privilege to collaborate with Zoie in multiple capacities through her roles with the city of Fort Lauderdale and Broward County Public Schools (BCPS), I have witnessed firsthand her profound dedication and innovative strategic approach to enhancing public education.

While working in Fort Lauderdale, Zoie secured millions of dollars in funding to upgrade public school facilities. Her ability to navigate complex bureaucratic landscapes to draw essential resources into our public schools was nothing short of remarkable.

During her tenure at BCPS, Zoie again demonstrated her exceptional leadership qualities and strategic thinking. She worked collaboratively with a diverse group of stakeholders to develop a visionary plan that redefined our approach to public education. Her strategic insights were crucial in formulating a redefining plan that will not only enhance the competitiveness of our public schools against charter and private institutions but also prioritize the welfare and success of every student.

Zoie's inclusive leadership style and her commitment to community involvement stand out. She possesses a rare ability to unite various groups towards a common goal, fostering partnerships that transcend traditional boundaries and propel meaningful progress. This ability is critical in these challenging times. Zoie is as she appears. Her approach is always positive, thoughtful, inclusive, and geared towards sustainable improvement.

I do not doubt that Zoie Saunders will bring the same passion, innovation, and leadership to the state of Vermont. Her track record of success assures me that under her guidance, the public school system in Vermont will thrive and provide its students with the quality education they deserve.

Should you require any more information, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely

John J. Sullivan

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