



PRESS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE

CONTACT: Denise Slaughter, 202-822-8405 x117

slaughterd@iel.org

“IEL PRESIDENT BETTY HALE ANNOUNCES IMPENDING RETIREMENT”

“While I celebrate IEL’s accomplishments, I celebrate even more what IEL is positioned to accomplish in the future,” Hale states.

June 13, Washington, DC – At the end of 2008, Elizabeth (Betty) L. Hale will be stepping down as the President of the Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL). Hale formally joined IEL’s staff 31 years ago, after her stint as a Fellow in its flagship year-long leadership development activity, Education Policy Fellowship Program (EPFP). She became the national director of EPFP in 1981, then IEL Vice President in 1987, before her selection as President after Michael D. Usdan’s retirement in 2001. Through her work with EPFP and IEL’s other programmatic activities, she has stayed connected to an ever-growing network of policymakers and practitioners across the country. A graduate of the University of Kentucky and a member of its College of Education’s Hall of Fame, Hale holds graduate degrees from Harvard University’s Graduate School of Education (Ed.M.) and John F. Kennedy School of Government (M.P.A.). She received the HGSE’s prestigious Alumni Council Award for Outstanding Contribution to Education in 2005.

Hale stated, *“...I leave an IEL that has a more targeted leadership agenda that includes connecting schools, families and communities, and improving the policies and systems that serve children and youth, paying particular attention to our most vulnerable youth. I’ve worn ‘many hats’ during my 31-years at IEL—and I’m ready to wear another in my on-going dedication to its mission.”* Roy E. Barnes, Chairman of IEL’s Board of Directors and Former Governor of Georgia, declared, *“Betty has dedicated herself to initiatives that will develop and support educational leaders as they address our nation’s complex educational problems, and filling her shoes will not be an easy task.”*

After Hale’s intended retirement was announced, congratulatory messages began pouring in from around the country, from people who wanted to express their thanks to Hale for both her and IEL’s impact on their lives and careers. Dr. Donald Martin, Superintendent, Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Public Schools, said, *“Superintendents Prepared [another IEL collaboration and leadership program] was a great experience.... IEL is a great organization and will continue to serve school administrators and education policy makers in the future.”*

IEL has retained TransitionGuides to assist with the transition planning and to lead the search that will get under way this summer. The position profile is posted on IEL’s Web site at: http://www.iel.org/pubs/president/iel_president_position_announcement.pdf.

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For more than 40 years, the Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL)—a non-profit, nonpartisan organization based in Washington, D.C.—has worked to achieve better results for children and youth. Our mission is to build the capacity of individuals and organizations in education and related fields to work *together*—across policies, programs, and sectors. Our efforts are focused through three programs of work: *Developing & Supporting Leaders; Strengthening School-Family-Community Connections; and Connecting and Improving Systems that Serve Children and Youth*. Please visit our Web site at www.iel.org to learn more about IEL.