Dr. Pruitt came to us with a national reputation, and in his time as our commissioner he has indeed accomplished a great deal for our students – from a new accountability system and new academic standards to the implementation of ESSA and the groundwork for charter schools. We cannot remember a commissioner who has taken on more in such a short period of time, not since the first commissioner in 1990.

The suddenness of this development has taken many of us by surprise, and, in light of the concerns being raised on social media, it bears repeating that we believe public education must always be a nonpartisan issue.

We thank Dr. Pruitt for his commitment to always including parents, teachers, superintendents, our member school board leaders and students in all these undertakings. His unprecedented dedication to public involvement may prove to be his greatest legacy to Kentucky. We look forward to continuing our partnership with the interim commissioner and the new members of the state board, as the work goes on to achieve excellence and equity for every child of our Commonwealth."