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**Statement of National Education Knowledge Industry Association  
President Jim Kohlmoos  
on the  
Confirmation of Margaret Spellings as Secretary of Education**

“The National Education Knowledge Industry Association (NEKIA) congratulates Margaret Spellings on her Senate confirmation as U.S. Secretary of Education. NEKIA and its members look forward to working closely with her and her team at the Department of Education to provide evidence-based solutions to improve the academic performance of all American students.

“NEKIA and its members have long believed that the best way to close the achievement gap is to utilize instructional practices based on the best available research and evidence. Toward that end, we hope the new Secretary will aggressively accelerate efforts to translate research into meaningful improvements in the classroom, promote new investments in education research, and increase federal resources for technical support to schools. In doing so, the Administration can build on the foundation it laid over the past four years to establish a new era of evidence-based education.

“Finally, we hope the new Secretary will reach out to educators and education organizations across the country. We hope that a spirit of cooperation and consensus prevails as the Administration develops its education agenda for the next four years.”

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