



## NJDOE News

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### **Senate Approves Commissioner Davy's Nomination**

The New Jersey Senate confirmed Governor Jon S. Corzine's nomination of Lucille E. Davy as Education Commissioner by a vote of 35-0 on Monday.

Supreme Court Chief Justice Deborah T. Poritz administered the oath of office to the Commissioner at a private ceremony in her chambers in Trenton after the vote. The Commissioner was accompanied by her husband, James M. Davy, and their son, Andrew.

"I am honored to have the confidence of the Governor and the support of the Senate in filling the important role of New Jersey's Commissioner of Education," Commissioner Davy said. "I am grateful to the many people who have helped me during the confirmation process, as well as those who have offered their support in moving forward Governor Corzine's education agenda and improving accountability and student achievement."

The Commissioner said the department's current educational priorities include:

- Implementation of NJQSAC - the new monitoring system - and the new student-level database;
- Revisions to the state assessment system to provide districts and educators with better information to help improve student achievement;
- The redesign of high schools to ensure that every student is prepared for the workforce, postsecondary education or both;
- Greater collaboration among the pre-K-12, business and higher education communities;
- Increased school safety, including coordination with work undertaken by the Department of Homeland Security and Office of the Attorney General; and
- The redesign of math and science education in the K-12 system to assist the state's students to obtain the skills and education needed in a competitive global economy.

Commissioner Davy and her staff are also working with the Governor's Office and the Legislature on revisions to the school funding formula.

A life-long resident of New Jersey, Commissioner Davy is a graduate of Livingston High School. She received a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Seton Hall University and a juris doctorate from the University of Notre Dame School of Law. She was admitted to the New Jersey Bar and Federal District Court in 1980. She is also a New Jersey certified math teacher, and has taught at the local and collegiate levels.

Commissioner Davy's father, Anthony Del Tufo, was a special education teacher, supervisor and school board member in Livingston.

"When I was a young girl, I used to go to work with him," the Commissioner recalled. "That's where I got my first inside look at education and teaching, and where I realized that working in this field was a way to make a real difference in the world."

Prior to her appointment as acting Commissioner in September of 2005, Mrs. Davy served as Special Counsel to the Governor for Education. In that role, she was the Governor's representative to the State Board of Education, the Commission on Higher Education and the New Jersey Institute of Technology Board of Trustees. She was instrumental in the early development of several key DOE initiatives, including QSAC and the early literacy task force.

Commissioner Davy is a former member of the Westfield Schools Parent-Teacher Council and is the co-director of the youth choir at St. James Church in Pennington, where she and her family currently reside. She and her husband have two sons, James and Andrew, who are college students.