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Superintendents Council commends Governor Cuomo for addition of Jessica Cohen to Education Reform Commission

ALBANY – The state Council of School Superintendents today commended Governor Andrew Cuomo for his addition of Jessica Cohen to the Education Reform Commission he established in April.

Dr. Cohen is retiring next month as District Superintendent of Onondaga-Cortland-Madison Board of Cooperative Educational Services.

Robert Reidy, Executive Director of the Superintendents Council, called her “a perfect choice.”

Reidy added, “Schools are going through a period of intense change now, with the implementation of new teacher and principal evaluation requirements, the transition to Common Core State Standards, and other Race to the Top initiatives. It is important for the Governor’s Commission to understand the effects of current state initiatives on schools as it considers new ones.”

Reidy went on, “Jessica is superbly qualified to give the other Commission members a sense of the demands educators and students are wrestling with right now.” He explained, “As a BOCES Superintendent, Jessica performs a dual role as chief executive of a regional school support agency, and as liaison between the Education Commissioner and Syracuse area school districts.”

“Those two roles give her an exceptional grasp of both state policy and how it is affecting schools and students,” Reidy observed.