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Congressman-Elect Bowman Announces Picks For Secretary Of Ed

Career educator and Congressman-elect in New York's 16th district Jamaal Bowman today announced four recommendations for the position of Secretary of Education in President-elect Biden's administration.

Before running for Congress, Jamaal was an educator for over 20 years and most recently was the principal of the Cornerstone Academy for Social Action (CASA), a public middle school he founded in The Bronx.

"These four years under Betsy DeVos have been an unmitigated disaster for public education – and that was true even before the pandemic made it harder to teach and harder

to learn," said Congressman-elect Jamaal Bowman.

"Our public schools are in a state of crisis, which is why this is going to be one of the single most important positions in Biden's cabinet. In this moment, we need a Secretary of Education who will support and listen to educators, not make their lives even harder. Our public schools have never needed bigger and bolder solutions than they do right now, and I'm confident that these four remarkable leaders are up to the task."

Congressman-elect Jamaal Bowman's recommendations for Secretary of Education:

Lily Eskelsen García is a labor activist and educator who led the country's largest labor union, the National Education Association, as the first Latina leader. She spent almost a decade in the classroom. Her work is rooted in justice and racial equity. After years working on the ground combating cruel policies attacking marginalized students, her leadership would be a phenomenal and welcomed change.

Freeman Hrabowski is an educator and transformative leader in higher education. His ability to see the potential of all students and unleash their talent is needed in our country. His work at the University of Maryland Baltimore County is a national example of innovative approaches to increasing student success in STEM.

Dr. Betty Rosa is a life-long educator and the Interim Commissioner of Education and President of the University of the State of New York. She holds deep experience in bilingual and inclusive education. Her deep experience as a classroom educator and administrator makes her an excellent candidate.

Randi Weingarten is a formidable labor leader who began her early career as a classroom teacher. She takes a bottom up approach to change in education which will be important as Secretary of Education. She is an organizer and national leader who would already understand the dynamics of D.C.