2005 Review Board

A distinguished group of the country's top educational leaders served as the Review Board for the 2005 Broad Prize for Urban Education. The Review Board members examined performance indicators, demographic statistics and other information about the urban school districts that were eligible for the Prize. Based on its examination, the Review Board narrowed the list of more than 80 eligible school districts to the five finalists for the Prize.

Russlynn Ali is the executive director of The Education Trust West. Ali previously worked for the Children's Defense Fund, where she served as the President's liaison for the Children's Defense Fund's "The Act to Leave No Child Behind" campaign.

Anne L. Bryant is the executive director of the National School Boards Association, a national federation of state school board associations. Bryant also is an advisory commissioner of the Education Commission of the States and is the chair of the Board of Trustees at Simmons College.

Douglas Carnine is professor of education and director of the National Center to Improve the Tools of Educators at the University of Oregon. Carnine has written and published more than 40 essays on education and has written several books in instructional practices.

Carl Cohn was named superintendent of San Diego City Schools in July 2005 and is a clinical professor at the Rossier School of Education at the University of Southern California. Previously he served as the superintendent of Long Beach Unified School District, winner of the 2003 Broad Prize. In 2001, Cohn was the recipient of The Harold W. McGraw, Jr. Prize in Education.

Christopher Cross is currently a senior fellow with the Center on Education Policy and with the Education Commission of the States. Cross formerly served as president and CEO of the Council for Basic Education, and served as an assistant secretary of education under President George H.W. Bush. In 2004, Cross formed Scott & Joftus, LLC to provide education leaders with personalized and expert assistance in policy analysis and development, evaluation, executive coaching, planning, and communication strategies.

Charles Desmond is the executive director of the Great Cities' Universities Coalition, a national network of 19 urban universities. He previously served as associate chancellor at the University of Massachusetts.
Frederick Hess is a resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute and the author of several books on education reform. Hess is executive editor of Education Next, a journal of research and opinion on education policy published by the Hoover Institution.

Paul T. Hill is the acting dean and research professor at the University of Washington's Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs. He also directs the Center on Reinventing Public Education, and is a visiting fellow at the Hoover Institution.

David Hornbeck is president of the Children's Defense Fund, a private, non-profit organization working to improve conditions for young people in America. He is also the founder and chair of Good Schools Pennsylvania, a grassroots initiative of thousands of high school and college students, parents and other citizens supporting quality public education for all students in Pennsylvania. Hornbeck served as superintendent of Philadelphia Public Schools from 1994 to 2000.

Tom Houlihan is the executive director of the Council of Chief State School Officers, representing the nation's education chiefs and state education agencies. He previously served as president and CEO of the North Carolina Partnership for Excellence and as senior education advisor to former North Carolina Governor James B. Hunt, Jr.

Phyllis Hunter is an education consultant in Houston, working on the Texas Statewide Reading Initiative. She also is a literacy consultant to President George W. Bush and has served as an administrator in the Houston Independent School District where she managed the district's reading department.

Sandy Kress is an attorney at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer Feld & LLP in Austin, Texas focusing on public law and policy at the state and national levels. He previously served as president of the board of trustees of the Dallas Independent School District. He is an education advisor to President George W. Bush.

Sara Martinez-Tucker is the president and CEO of the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, which oversees the disbursement of nearly $30 million in college scholarships to students annually. Prior to joining the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, Martinez-Tucker was an executive at AT&T.

Wendy Puriefoy is the president of the Public Education Network (PEN), the nation's largest network of community-based school reform organizers. Under her leadership, PEN has grown into a national network of local education funds in 31 states and the District of Columbia reaching more than 10 million poor and disadvantaged students in urban and rural school districts across America.

Piedad Robertson is president of the Education Commission of the States, a national, non-profit organization that helps legislators develop and implement policies to improve student learning. In 2003, she was appointed to California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's Transition Committee and was named special advisor to former California Secretary of Education Richard Riordan.
John Theodore "Ted" Sanders is the former president of the Education Commission of the States. He served as the state superintendent of Illinois for five years before being appointed by President George H.W. Bush as deputy secretary of education in 1989.

Anthony Trujillo is a senior associate at the National Center on Education and the Economy. He was formerly superintendent of public schools in El Paso Ysleta School District in Texas, and Marin County Schools and the Sweetwater Union High School District, both in California.