



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF EDUCATION
ONE ASHBURTON PLACE • ROOM 1403
BOSTON, MA 02108

MAURA T. HEALEY
GOVERNOR

KIMBERLEY L. DRISCOLL
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

PATRICK A. TUTWILER, Ph.D.
SECRETARY

TEL: (617) 979-8340
FAX: (617) 727-0049
www.mass.gov/education

October 21, 2025

To Whom it May Concern,

I write this letter in strong support of Tamesha Webb's candidacy for the Dr. Charles Mitchell, Jr Leadership Scholarship. I write with enthusiasm, as I am happy to celebrate Tamesha's attributes and contributions – which are far too many in number to describe in the finite space of this letter. Over the course of the past year and a half working with Tamesha, I have borne witness to the depth of her knowledge, leadership ability, and boundless potential. Not only do I confirm the depth of her knowledge and skills as an educator and her potential as a leader, I can, with the utmost conviction, confirm that she will be an impactful district leader. As I see it critical, opportunities like this scholarship will work in service of her path to that impactful opportunity.

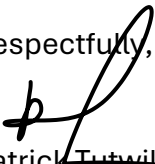
I teach an instructional leadership course at the Harvard Graduate School of Education for which Tamesha served as the Teaching Fellow (TF) during the 2024-2025 academic year. The primary goal of this yearlong course is to prepare participants for the demands of the principalship. The course focuses on four leadership standards: instructional leadership, operational and managerial leadership, family and community engagement and professional culture. While the course focuses on conceptual frameworks and theory, it is a practice-based course – one wherein participants effectively apply their learning in partnership with a mentor principal over the course of the year. For Tamesha, as the TF, this was the perfect professional opportunity to practice working directly with would-be leaders as they engage in the critical elements of school-based leadership. To say that she did so masterfully would be an understatement. As an experienced superintendent myself, I observed all of the requisite skill sets of district leadership on full display as Tamesha worked with the members of the class. She is more than ready for this next step.

While the day-to-day tasks of district leadership require pragmatism, deep organization, patience, and energy (all things Tamesha possesses and demonstrated regularly in her capacity as TF), there is a place for theory and research. In my tenure as an educator, I have encountered few who have as strong a handle on the current education research and,

more importantly, the professional dexterity to use it as a guide for practice. Frequently in class, Tamesha coached and mentored aspiring principals through the critical leadership tasks required for licensure using her own experiences as a school based leader, but referencing research as the anchor as well. In all, Tamesha exhibits a balanced approach to leadership – one that is uncomplicated and efficient and deeply thoughtful and informed at the same time.

I have and continue to be thoroughly impressed with Tamesha and I am sold on her promise as an educator, first and foremost, and a leader. Not only is she a concerned and compassionate role model for colleagues, she possesses remarkable gifts as a thinker and collaborator. She is a true professional whose integrity and character alone will surely enhance any learning community. I look forward to following her progress and later her accomplishments as a district leader. The scholarship opportunity serves as an important springboard toward the impact I know she will make.

Respectfully,



Patrick Tutwiler, PhD
Massachusetts Secretary of Education
Lynn Public Schools Superintendent, 2018-2022