



# News Release

## From Seattle Public Schools

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### **Preliminary Agreement Reached between Seattle Public Schools and Seattle Education Association**

#### **Agreement will strengthen teaching and learning, Superintendent says**

Seattle Public Schools Superintendent Maria L. Goodloe-Johnson, Ph.D. today announced that Seattle Public Schools' negotiators have reached a tentative agreement on a one-year labor contract for 2009-10 with the Seattle Education Association (SEA), which represents teachers, paraprofessionals and office professionals.

"I am delighted that we are close to reaching an agreement," Goodloe-Johnson said. "We were able to focus on our shared priority of strengthening teaching and learning and providing an excellent education for every student."

This tentative agreement is the first contract negotiated since the District's current five-year contract with SEA was reached in 2004. It is the first step in an ongoing negotiations process to work together to achieve the goals of *Excellence for All* that were reflected in the proposals included in this series of contract talks. SEA membership is scheduled to vote on the agreement on August 31<sup>st</sup>. Assuming the agreement is ratified by SEA members, the Seattle School Board will vote on the agreement on September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

"Teachers are committed to their work with students in the classroom," said Goodloe-Johnson. "That dedication came through in our contract discussions."

Goodloe-Johnson thanked the leadership team at SEA for their leadership. "We pledged to work together for the good of our students," she said. "And I am proud that we were able to do that as we prepare for an excellent year in every school."

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