



PRESS RELEASE

NYSUT • 800 Troy-Schenectady Road • Latham, NY • 12110-2455 • www.nysut.org

For more information, contact:

NYSUT Media Relations

(518) 213-6000, ext. 6313

Email: mediarel@nysutmail.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NYSUT congratulates Rosa, Brown on election as Regents leaders

ALBANY, N.Y. March 21, 2016 — New York State United Teachers today congratulated Betty Rosa on her election as the new chancellor of the Board of Regents and T. Andrew Brown on his election as vice chancellor.

NYSUT President Karen E. Magee said union members hoped the selection of Rosa, of the Bronx, and Brown, of Rochester, two weeks after the Legislature’s vote to appoint three new Regents signals a new era for the state’s education policymaking body.

“We congratulate Chancellor Rosa and Vice Chancellor Brown and hope today helps to build a more collaborative and positive working relationship with all the Regents,” Magee said. “There is a lot of hard work ahead. Yet we are optimistic that students, parents and educators will have a more meaningful voice in fixing New York standards; reducing the burden of standardized testing; and creating a fair and objective evaluation system. New York’s public schools will be better off when the Regents completely achieve these goals and we urge them to press ‘fast forward’ on the process.”

NYSUT Vice President Catalina Fortino noted Rosa attended public schools and graduated from CUNY’s City College before earning advanced degrees from CUNY and a doctorate from Harvard University. She said Rosa’s work as a bilingual paraprofessional, teacher, special education administrator and superintendent — and her ongoing role as a mentor for doctoral students in education — provide her with an ideal set of skills and experiences to identify with New York’s diversity of students and school districts.

“Chancellor Rosa is passionate about the power of public education. She sees our public schools and colleges as guiding lights to a brighter future for each and every child,” Fortino said. “Her intellect, breadth of real-world experience, lifelong commitment to students and teachers, and her care in using proven research in decision-making make her an excellent choice to lead the Regents as their chancellor.”

In addition, Fortino said, Rosa’s deep knowledge about teacher education — and what schools of education can do to better prepare aspiring educators for careers in teaching — will help strengthen the profession

Fortino said Vice Chancellor Brown, an attorney, has served ably on a number of Regents committees and “impressed NYSUT members with his work on the Regents’ Workgroup to Improve Outcomes for Boys

and Young Men of Color.” She said, “We look forward to continuing our work with Chancellor Rosa and Vice Chancellor Brown — and all the members of the board — on behalf of students and all of public education.”

New York State United Teachers is a statewide union with more than 600,000 members in education, human services and health care. NYSUT is affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers, the National Education Association and the AFL-CIO.