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Council of the Great City Schools  
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## **New Leadership Begins at Council of the Great City Schools**

### ***Portland Board Member Takes Reins***

WASHINGTON, July 1 – Dilafruz Williams, a school board member of Oregon's Portland Public Schools, today assumes leadership of the Council of the Great City Schools' board of directors.

She succeeds Boston Public Schools Superintendent Carol Johnson as chair of the policymaking body of the national coalition representing 64 of the nation's largest urban public school systems. The Council's 128-member board is composed of the superintendent and a school board member from each of the districts.

Joining Williams in her one-year term will be Atlanta Public Schools Superintendent Beverly Hall, who is now chair-elect, stepping up from the Council's secretary-treasurer post.

Rounding out the Council's 2010-2011 leadership team is Candy Olson, a board member of Florida's Hillsborough County School District in Tampa. She has been elected secretary-treasurer.

"As the nation's school districts face mounting economic challenges in the upcoming school year, we're confident that the Council's board will steer urban-school reforms forward despite the obstacles," says Council Executive Director Michael Casserly.

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