



SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

OCT 11 2011

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Grassley:

Thank you for your letters expressing concern about the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) and its former director, Dr. Shirley Miles. In my initial weeks as Secretary, I have also come to be concerned about the overall health of DoD's overseas and domestic dependent schools and their leadership. Your letters highlight critical concerns that I share.

We have finished our review of the recommendations contained in the DoD Inspector General's Report of Investigation (ROI), *Alleged Misconduct: Dr. Shirley A. Miles, Director, Department of Defense Education Activity*, dated June 30, 2011, Case Number H09L112622206, and have terminated the employment of Dr. Miles effective September 24, 2011. It is my hope that this fresh start will permit DoDEA to achieve the level of excellence that I, as Secretary, expect and that the families of our Servicemembers deserve.

In the coming weeks, I intend to receive further briefings about DoDEA and would be happy to provide you or your staff with additional appropriate information as you require. I am advised by counsel that because the records describing actions we have taken on the findings in the ROI are subject to the protections of the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C., 552a(b), I am unable to provide you additional information or records without the prior written consent of the individuals involved or a letter signed by the Chairman of a congressional committee or subcommittee with jurisdiction over the matter. That being said, we will do whatever possible to ensure that you stay fully informed about this matter.

I regret that previous letters on this matter were not responded to you in writing, and I want to ensure you that future letters will be answered fully and in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name of the Secretary of Defense, with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.