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**Walters Reacts to Ebony Johnson Being Named Interim Superintendent
for Tulsa Public Schools**

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma – State Superintendent Ryan Walters has issued the following statement after the naming of Dr. Ebony Johnson as Interim Superintendent of Tulsa Public Schools (TPS):

“I have been clear for months that the status quo was unacceptable and dramatic change was necessary to improve literacy and overall student outcomes among Tulsa students. With new leadership in place, TPS has an opportunity to begin to turn the corner. Our kids deserve it, and the Tulsa community expects strong leadership dedicated to excellence and improving student outcomes.

At the August State Board meeting, I was clear that TPS needed to address these areas immediately:

- 1) Substantial improvement in reading scores
- 2) Enhanced financial management and internal controls
- 3) Address failing schools to get them off the F list

I look forward to continuing to work with Dr. Johnson and the rest of TPS leadership toward these goals and to foster accountability, innovation, and excellence in Tulsa Public Schools. Working together, we will forge a brighter future for Tulsa kids.”

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