

**What do you think as arts education leaders in Florida about the position below?**

From Dr. Gail BrunaFord at Florida Atlantic University sent to me by Alyx Kellington, Director of Arts & Cultural Education, Palm Beach County Cultural Council

There's a movement starting up to convince President-Elect Obama to appoint Dr. Linda Darling-Hammond of Stanford University, the new Secretary of Education. There is an online petition and we would like to get as many signatures as possible. Here are my thoughts - and some possible language if you want to go on Obama's website - and/or sign the petition. The key for me is that she really has a handle on the triangle - **RESEARCH, POLICY, AND PRACTICE**.

The district bureaucrats focus on policy, the academics rely on research, and the teachers care most about practice. She is able to bridge all these communities. *She's really the only one I know of right now who can do that.* **Darling-Hammond can convene the smartest people (isn't that the Obama way?) who will actually attend and participate with her leadership** (can't say the same for Joel Klein, Arnie Duncan or Colin Powell - yes, you heard me right - that's the word).

There's more information about Dr. Darling-Hammond at the petition site.

<http://www.petitiononline.com/DHammond/petition.html>

Please pass this along to as many people as you can - we want to make this go viral!