



Dear Educators and Business Leaders,

Welcome to the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Transatlantic Education Leadership Exchange in Atlanta, Georgia. I apologize that I could not attend the TELE Summit this year, but I am thrilled that you all are here to network with likeminded educators, business leaders, community leaders, and solution providers to help improve education for the children of both Finland and Georgia.

As a former educator, I have always had a passion for teaching and encouraging students to love learning. Since becoming the First Lady I have spent most of my time visiting schools and reading to children. I have had the opportunity to read in each county and school district and to date I have visited nearly 700 schools. Through all of this I have learned that it is imperative that students learn how to read by the third grade in order to have a successful future. Each school has so much to offer and I hope that this conference encourages you all to continue making strides in our educational system not only here in Georgia, but in Finland as well.

Nathan and I are so proud of the great work you are doing, we truly believe that the best gift for a child is a good education. Thank you all for your service to this state and I hope you all have a wonderful time exchanging learning strategies and ideas at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Transatlantic Education Leadership Exchange Summit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Deal".

First Lady Sandra Deal