



THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20202

May 11, 2009

Mr. Josh Hilberman
248 Moss Hill Road
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130-3007

Dear Mr. Hilberman:

Congratulations! I am pleased to recognize you as a recipient of the 2009 Presidential Scholars Program's Teacher Recognition Award. It is my pleasure to welcome you to the first class of distinguished educators to be so honored by the Obama Administration.

Applicants to this program are asked to name their most challenging and inspiring teachers. For 2009, Presidential Scholar Daniel Mitra selected you for this recognition. Nurturing the love of learning and winning the praise of this outstanding student is an achievement I know you will treasure.

President Obama and I believe that education is the civil rights issue of our generation. The President has said, "What's at stake is nothing less than the American Dream. . . . It's that most American of ideas, that with the right education, a child of any race, any faith, any station, can overcome whatever barriers stand in their way and fulfill their God-given potential."

Thank you for all that you are already doing to help realize this vision, and for continuing to lend your gifts and energies so that all of our children will be equipped to reap the benefits of the American dream. This Administration is proud to join you in this vital effort, and we will not rest until we achieve this goal, together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arne Duncan", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Arne Duncan