

JAMES H. DOUGLAS  
Governor



State of Vermont  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

December 8, 2008

Barry and Wendy Rowland  
The Rowland Foundation  
PO Box 88  
South Londonderry, VT 05155

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Rowland,

On behalf of the state of Vermont, our teachers, and our students, I want to express our gratitude to you for the creation of the Rowland Fellowship program. The chance for Vermont teachers to participate in such a well-supported opportunity to collaboratively build their school's culture and climate in order to improve our students' classroom performance is more than admirable.

As you may know, we are currently working to "transform" the educational system in Vermont so that every student will leave the system prepared for success in their ongoing education, establishing their careers, and being productive 21<sup>st</sup> century citizens. We too feel that when students become invested in their own education, they take it seriously, and they succeed. Your vision for improved student voice and a sense of connectedness is an illustration of the vision we share for our students.

Please accept our warm and sincere gratitude for your investment in the future of Vermont, because the students you ultimately support through your program are our future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James H. Douglas", written over a circular embossed or stamped area.

James H. Douglas  
Governor

JHD/msw