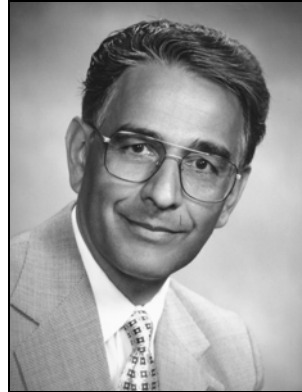




## A Tribute



### Luis A. Ramos

July 7, 1950 - January 1, 2008

**Chairperson, Council of Basic Education, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Manager, Public Affairs, PPL Resources, Inc.  
Former Chairperson, ASD Empowerment Team**

*“Lou Ramos was an exceptional leader who gave to our community and district both passion and compassion. He and the late Dr. Mark Young provided the leadership to ASD when it faced Empowerment – leadership that resulted in the District being removed from this status and beginning a path of improvement. Lou was a tireless worker in improving education at the local, state and national level. He believed that every child should have a quality education that had high expectations. He has positively impacted the lives of thousands – both children and adults. He shall be missed. It is up to us to meet the challenges he put forth to all of us. I considered him a valued and respected friend.”*

**Karen S. Angello, Ph.D., Superintendent**

*“It is rare that someone comes into our lives who has wisdom and compassion; who crosses the boundaries of culture, race, socioeconomic status and educational level with ease and understanding; who faces challenges with passion, energy and enthusiasm; who is visionary and practical; who loves deeply and cares unconditionally especially for our children. Such a person was Lou Ramos. It is with a heavy heart that we acknowledge his death but with gratitude that we were blessed with his life. His spirit will be with each one of us as we continue to serve the children he cherished. Adiòs mi amigo, hasta que nos veamos otra vez.”*

**Diane Scott, Ed.D., Retired Superintendent**

*“Lou's steady team building leadership skills helped the school district through Empowerment's challenging times and set us on a path to academic success for all of our students. His positive outlook was important for all of the many diverse groups of leaders, teachers, parents and students who have come together to make a difference in our City. Over the years he was a friend, mentor and guide. Though lately I didn't see Lou often, it was comforting to know that he was working at the state level for us.”*

**Jeff Glazier, ASD Board Member  
Former President, ASD School Board of Directors**

*“I am saddened to hear of the passing of Mr. Luis A. Ramos. I send my prayers and deepest sympathy to his family for their loss.*

*It was my pleasure to work closely with Lou on numerous civic efforts. We had many fantastic conversations about the Valley, kids, and our backgrounds: we often joked that he and I grew up in different neighborhoods together. He often expressed his optimistic hope for the future. The overriding theme of his work and our conversations was that in our country it is possible for anyone to improve and succeed in life. But, while all of us are expected to work hard and to our potential, some of us need a bit more help than others. Lou recognized this and believed education was the key that unlocked the door to all positive opportunity.*

*I am grateful to Lou for his inspiration, his energy, his concern for others, and his friendship. The Lehigh Valley has lost one of its own sons, a strong leader, and a good citizen”*

**Edward F. Meehan  
Executive Director, Rider Pool Foundation  
Former Chair, Allentown School District Community Council**

*“Luis Ramos passing has a tremendous impact on the Commonwealth, as we lose an innovator, a leader and most importantly a great friend. He was kind and dedicated, and inspired his peers through his clear and strategic thinking. Luis was highly respected throughout the educational community and leaves behind a legacy of innovative work.*

*Luis' extensive work in education included chairing the Pennsylvania State Board of Education's Council of Basic Education. He led the council through very progressive times during the past five years: standards and assessment alignment, teacher quality, Chapter 12 and 14 revisions, PAGE 1, and many other efforts to improve education for all children. Luis' service to the public will be remembered and will continue to positively impact the children of the commonwealth for many years to come. Luis' dedication to education was marked by excellence and great success. There is no higher calling than that of public service and no career more noble than helping to educate our children. Luis showed great commitment to his community and his work in education has helped build a strong community of which we can all be proud.*

*On behalf of the Department of Education, I send my heartfelt condolences at this difficult time to Luis' family and his friends. He will be greatly missed, but certainly not forgotten.”*

**Gerald L. Zahorchak, D.Ed.  
Secretary of Education**