



Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters

Strength in Numbers 95,000

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LEGISLATIVE ACTION ALERT

Wolf nominates teachers' union head to be labor secretary



By [The Associated Press](#)

HARRISBURG -- Democratic Gov. Tom Wolf is turning to the leader of the state's largest teachers' union to be his next secretary of labor.

Wolf on Friday nominated special education teacher Jerry Oleksiak to succeed Kathy Manderino as the head of the Department of Labor and Industry.

The 64-year-old Oleksiak is currently president of the Pennsylvania State Education Association, which has 180,000 members.

The union says his last day will be Sept. 2, and his successor will be the current vice president, Dolores McCracken. She is a paraprofessional in the Council Rock School District.

"PSEA members will miss Jerry's extraordinary leadership," McCracken said in a statement Friday afternoon. "But Pennsylvanians will gain a tireless advocate in the governor's cabinet, and they will come to learn what we at PSEA already know - that Jerry Oleksiak will always be in their corner.

"Jerry and Gov. Wolf will make an incredible team. I speak for all PSEA members in saying that I wish Jerry the best of luck meeting this exciting new challenge." The nomination requires Senate approval.

Oleksiak spent most of his 32 years in the classroom at the Upper Merion Area School District, and he lives in Glenside. He has a bachelor's degree from St. Joseph's University.