



FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION

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FPA Town Hall
Russell J. Sapienza Introduction
Thursday, May 31, 2012, 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
The Pierre Hotel, 2 East 61st Street at Fifth Avenue, New York, NY

Featuring:

Russell J. Sapienza

MR. RUSSELL J. SAPIENZA: Good evening, everyone. It's a pleasure to be here. Just a little background on this Foreign Policy Association Medal, and what it recognizes. The medal recognizes public service in individuals who promote the FPA's mission; developing awareness, understanding and an informed opinion on the US foreign policy and global issues.

Some of its prior recipients include, of course, President Bill Clinton, UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon, and, of course, Colin Powell, Former Secretary of State of the United States.

I'm proud to present tonight's first honoree, Joel Klein. When I saw Joel in the receiving line and I said Joel, I'm presenting your medal tonight, he said, great, don't blow it. So, I will give you a very short read of why Joel is here with us tonight and why he deserves this honor.

Just recently, last year, Joel became CEO of the Educational Division and Executive Vice President of The Office of Chairman of News Corp., where he also serves on the Board of Directors. It's very exciting for myself in the entertainment industry to see what's going to come out of that mix of media and media, and digital media, especially, meets education, and the exciting things that will happen over the next few years in there.

Of course, as we all know, prior to that Joel was the Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education where he oversaw a system of over sixteen hundred schools with 1.1 million students, one hundred thirty-six thousand employees, and

a \$22 million budget. And, of course, he launched Children First, a comprehensive reform strategy that has brought coherence and capacity to the system and has resulted in significant increases in student performance.

And, of course, before that he, before his extensive media industry and his New York City Education contributions Joel served our country as an assistant US Attorney General and Deputy White House Counsel to our, to a prior medal recipient, President Clinton.

Ladies and gentlemen, the Foreign Policy Association is honored to present its medal to Joel Klein. Joel? Hi, how are you? Do you want to, do you want to?

MR. JOEL KLEIN: These people are hungry.