

PSESD LEARNING COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION SEEKS NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The newly imagined **Learning Communities Foundation** is looking for energetic, strategic board members who bring passion for education, racial equity, and fund development, and who have the ability to engage community partners in the work of the PSESD.

The PSESD Learning Communities Foundation (LCF) is an organization that **raises and strategically distributes funds** to support the programs of the Puget Sound Educational Service District which are designed to eliminate opportunity gaps and support success in school and in life for all children, youth and families, by leading with racial equity. **Educare Seattle is expected to be a primary beneficiary of these funds:** Educare Seattle is a nationally-recognized, research-based early childhood education hub in White Center, WA that serves low-income children from infancy to

age 5, as well as acting as a community lab that disseminates best practices, informs the field, and influences policy throughout the early learning community in Washington State and nationally.

Now is a particularly exciting time to be part of the LCF Board of Directors. As a board member, you will have the opportunity to **collaborate and engage** with the first LCF Director, other committed community leaders, and PSESD leadership to **shape the mission, vision and values of the LCF**. You will play a vital role as an ambassador of the organization to **raise awareness** in the community about this new foundation and its purpose. By engaging in **fund development** activities on behalf of the LCF, you will have a **deep and direct impact** on the learning and well-being of the children and families in our region.



“SUCCESS FOR EACH CHILD AND ELIMINATE THE OPPORTUNITY GAP BY LEADING WITH RACIAL EQUITY”



ABOUT BOARD SERVICE

The Learning Communities Foundation, first established in 2010, is being reimagined and expanded in order to provide a more effective vehicle for individuals, foundations, and corporations to engage and invest in the inspiring and important programs of Educare and the PSESD. The LCF will be led by a Director who is supported by a board; the LCF board currently consists of 3 members, and 4 more will be identified and brought on by August 2018. For the next 4 years, the work of the LCF is being partially funded by grant support which has already been secured; these investments will support the gradual growth of the donor base at a realistic pace, ensuring that the LCF will be built on a solid foundation with the goal of being self-sustaining for many years to come.

BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

The LCF Board of Directors provides mission-based, equity-focused leadership, strategic governance and fund development support to ensure LCF is run effectively, legally, and ethically. New board members will participate in a thoughtful and comprehensive onboarding process to become comfortable in this role. The LCF will prioritize board development and engagement and is committed to ensuring that board members' time is used well and that members feel supported, equipped, and valued.

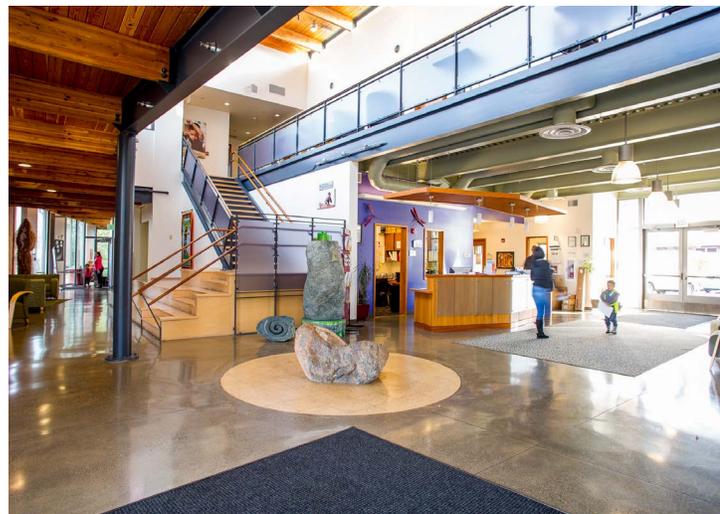
Work of the board will include:

ORGANIZATIONAL STEWARDSHIP

- Work with the LCF Director to establish the mission, vision and values of the organization.
- Engage and participate in the recruitment and onboarding of additional board members.
- Establish board structures, policies and procedures.
- Ensure that the organization has an informed and relevant strategy to accomplish its mission.
- Support and evaluate the LCF Director.
- Act on, engage in and confront challenges facing the organization.
- Bring passion and skill to the organization.
- Stay informed of what is happening internally and support the LCF Director to address issues effectively

FISCAL AND LEGAL STEWARDSHIP

- Oversee the organization to ensure that it is financially and legally viable and sustainably.
- Ensure immediate and long-term fiscal planning.



- Oversee budget and budgeting process.
- Actively lead and support fundraising efforts.
- Personally solicit and secure funds for the foundation.
- Provide oversight of the foundation's resources to assure alignment with the foundation's mission and purpose.

COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP

- Maintain coherence and integrity of the mission, vision and values of the organization.
- Attend functions on behalf of the organization.
- Act as a well-informed spokesperson and advocate.
- Assist in raising awareness of the need to support quality educational programs and support services for children, youth and families in the PSESD service area.
- Engage, cultivate and steward the organization's constituents, partners and funders.

JOIN THE LCF BOARD

IDEAL EXPERIENCE, SKILLS & ATTRIBUTES

We hope board members will bring many of the following skills, traits, and experiences to their role, and we are committed to helping board members develop new skills they may need to be effective:

- Value and prioritize equity and inclusivity
- Natural collaborator who can build constructive partnerships
- Experience in fund development from individual donors, corporate and/or foundation grants
- Strong awareness of, and/or participation in community work that supports the needs of children, youth and families as well as the needs of schools and other learning environments within the PSESD service area
- Previous nonprofit board experience
- Strategic thinker
- Curiosity and a willingness to learn
- Action-oriented, with the time and interest to make this a top priority



TIME COMMITMENT

Members are elected to a **3-year term**. Each member should be prepared to invest an average of **6-8 hours per month**, which typically includes:

- 3 hours to prepare for and attend Board meetings (10 per year)
- 2-4 hours for committee work (per committee)

Note: During certain months, members spend additional hours on special tasks, meetings, and events.

BOARD MEMBERS SHOULD BE WILLING AND TYPICALLY ABLE TO:

- Commit to a 3-year board term.
- Attend all board meetings, plus several special events throughout the year.
- Serve on at least 1 board committee or working group, and carry out related responsibilities.
- Review the agenda and all supporting materials prior to meetings.
- Be informed about the LCF mission, services, policies, and programs.
- Make LCF a philanthropic priority and make an annual, personally significant gift that reflects that priority.
- Participate in fund development activities.
- Follow conflict of interest, ethics, and confidentiality guidelines.

PHILANTHROPIC COMMITMENT

LCF board members consider LCF a philanthropic priority and make an annual, personally significant gift that reflects that priority. In order to credibly solicit contributions from foundations, corporations, and individuals, LCF expects 100% of board members to make an annual contribution that is commensurate with their capacity.

COMMITMENT TO EQUITY

PSESD is committed to becoming an Antiracist Multicultural Organization. We hold each other accountable to sustaining the principles that guide our culture to meet the Agency end: Success for each child and eliminate the opportunity gap by leading with racial equity. We believe that having a community with diverse backgrounds enhances our ability to meet our mission and creates a vibrant environment where all members of the community thrive. We strongly encourage applications from people of color and other underrepresented and historically marginalized groups.



TAKE THE NEXT STEP AND GET INVOLVED

If you are interested in learning more about the LCF board and applying to be a part of it, please **contact Mary Ellen Cunningham of Clover Search Works**. She will send you an application and can answer any questions you may have.

Email: maryellen@cloversearchworks.com

Phone: 206.406.3159

The search for positions on the LCF Board of Directors is being facilitated by Clover Search Works, a search firm that provides a full range of search services to nonprofit organizations in the Pacific Northwest and beyond. Clover Search Works is honored to work with the PSESD LCF to recruit board members who will provide leadership to realize its mission.

