

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bellevue Schools Foundation June 25, 2021 Media Contact: Christy Minteer, info@bsfdn.org

## Bellevue Schools Foundation Announces Juliet Buder as New Executive Director

Premier Washington State nonprofit is poised to further expand its impact in Bellevue's public schools by funding critical educational initiatives.

Bellevue, Washington -- Bellevue Schools Foundation is pleased to announce the appointment of Juliet K. Buder as its new Executive Director following a nationwide search. Juliet joins the Foundation with over a dozen years of experience in fundraising and strategic leadership in the nonprofit sector.

Board of Trustees President, Kimberly Walker said, "Juliet's commitment to expanding access in the education sector, combined with her proven track record of leveraging philanthropic partnerships on a national and international level is the perfect fit for the organization at this time. Under Juliet's leadership, Bellevue Schools Foundation will have the strategic expertise needed to propel the Foundation forward on a trajectory that will maximize community resources and corporate partnerships in support of Bellevue public schools."

Ms. Buder has had roles of increasing responsibility at nonprofits in Washington, D.C. and New York City, including Equal Justice Works, Thurgood Marshall Academy Public Charter High School, Ethical Culture Fieldston School, Oliver Scholars, and Abaarso Network, where she most recently served as Chief Development Officer.

Board of Trustees President-Elect Allison Frey shares, "Our Board's determination to maximize educational outcomes for all students in Bellevue will be enhanced by Julier's strategic approach to community partnerships, donor relations, and organizational outcomes."

Bellevue Schools Foundation has committed to eight different educational investments within the Bellevue School District for the 2021–2022 school year, including initiatives focused on equity, community engagement, mental health, and early learning. Bellevue School District's Deputy Superintendent for Student Academic Performance and Instructional Leadership affirms, "The Bellevue Schools Foundation has continuously and generously supported our students and staff for many years, funding key initiatives such as computer science in elementary schools and the National Board Certification program. These investments are critical to the vision of the Bellevue School District to prepare our students as creators of their future world. I am truly pleased to welcome Juliet Buder as a thought partner with the school district in her new leadership role as the Executive Director for the Bellevue Schools Foundation!"

Juliet's appointment has been welcomed by the broader Bellevue community, and Bellevue Education Association President Allison Snow and Vice President Jillian Rock expressed, "Bellevue Education Association looks forward to the continued partnership and support of Bellevue Schools Foundation as we look to the future. We join Juliet in her desire to ensure that Bellevue Schools Foundation is maximizing its impact in the community and also believe that students in Bellevue public schools deserve a world-class education."



**ABOUT THE BELLEVUE SCHOOLS FOUNDATION:** The mission of the Bellevue Schools Foundation is to promote and fund the best possible learning opportunities for ALL Students in Bellevue's public schools. For over 40 years, the Bellevue Schools Foundation has driven resources to Bellevue's public schools, with over \$36 million contributed to date. Students enrolled in the Bellevue School District are incredibly diverse: 100 languages are spoken; 125 countries of birth are represented; and 40% of students speak a first language other than English. Bellevue Schools Foundation is particularly noteworthy for its commitment to teacher development, and 45% of Bellevue School District teachers have achieved NBCT certification through the National Board Certification for Professional Teaching Standards, an achievement that is proven to directly correlate with increased learning potential in students.

Bellevue Schools Foundation supports the dismantling of structural and systemic inequities that perpetuate both naive and intentional discrimination against persons of all races, ethnicities, religions, gender orientations, disabilities, and economic statuses. The Foundation believes that education is the basis for opportunity, growth, and success in life. The Foundation is uniquely positioned to be a catalytic agent of positive change and advancement in Bellevue's public schools, and leverage private support to provide the high-quality education the community deserves.

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