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Learning Forward Announces New Associate Director of Special Projects

DALLAS—March 1, 2011—Learning Forward is pleased to announce the appointment of Jacqueline Kennedy as its new associate director of special projects.

Kennedy will manage new and ongoing partnerships between Learning Forward and schools or school districts and support foundation-supported initiatives. She joins Learning Forward with a 16-year background in public education, having most recently served as the director of professional development at Frisco Independent School District in Frisco, Texas. She has also held central administration positions in assessment and accountability and adult education in two large urban school districts, and served as an assistant principal, counselor, education consultant, grant reviewer, and classroom teacher.

“Kennedy brings rich, practical experience leading professional development in a rapidly growing school district and supporting principals, teacher leaders, and school leadership teams to implement effective professional learning for student achievement,” says Stephanie Hirsh, executive director. “Our members and programs will benefit from her first-hand experience. We look forward to the contributions she will make to our organization.”

“I’m excited for the opportunity to contribute to and learn from the field,” Kennedy said. “As a practitioner, I enjoy seeing initiatives through from beginning to end — from policy to design — and making a significant difference for educators and students.”

Kennedy is a member of Learning Forward’s Academy Class of 2011 and will graduate in December. She is a member of ASCD as well as PDK International, which named her as one of its 2010-11 Emerging Leaders. Kennedy is currently completing superintendent certification, and is a doctoral candidate at the University of North Texas in the Department of Applied Technology, Training, and Development.

About Learning Forward (formerly National Staff Development Council)

Learning Forward’s purpose is ensuring that every educator engages in effective professional learning every day so every student achieves. Learning Forward is a nonprofit, international association of learning educators focused on increasing student achievement through more effective professional development. To learn more about the impact of high-quality professional learning, visit www.learningforward.org.