

Denise Glyn Borders named new executive director

Denise Glyn Borders will serve as Learning Forward's new executive director beginning in June.

"We welcome Denise Glyn Borders to Learning Forward," said Alan Ingram, past president of Learning Forward and chair of the executive director search committee. "Denise brings strategic leadership, strong research, and expertise from a range of sectors, in pre-K-12, government, academia, profit, and nonprofit organizations," said Ingram.

"As a long-time follower of Learning Forward, I'm honored to have the opportunity to serve as the organization's next executive director," said Borders.

"Learning Forward built the foundation for effective professional learning when it created the Standards for Professional Learning. I look forward to working with the board of trustees and Learning Forward staff and members to leverage that foundation while exploring new avenues to achieve the organization's vision for equity and excellence."

Most recently, Borders served as president of SRI Education, a division at SRI International, where she led learning and development, technology and learning, and education policy. Previously, Borders was senior vice president and director of the U.S. Education and Workforce Development Group at FHI 360, a global human development organization with an evidence-based research approach.

Earlier, Borders was a senior vice president at AED, where she oversaw U.S. program operations in education, early childhood development, research and evaluation, and education policy and practice. She also served as president and CEO of The McKenzie Group.

She served as associate director of the Office of Research, Evaluation, Assessment, and Professional



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Development for the Department of Defense Education Activity. She was also chief of educational accountability and assistant superintendent for Baltimore City Public Schools in Maryland and a consultant at CTB/McGraw-Hill Publishing.

In addition, Borders has been a curriculum specialist, teacher supervisor, classroom teacher, and university lecturer. Borders serves on the board of trustees for Teachers College, Columbia University, and for AdvancED.

"I can't wait for Learning Forward's members and stakeholders to meet Denise," said Learning Forward President Leigh Wall. "They will appreciate so much the insights and passion that she will harness to advance Learning Forward's vision."

The decision to hire Borders comes after a seven-month nationwide search.

Stephanie Hirsh, Learning Forward's outgoing executive director, will support Borders through a brief transition before leaving the organization as a full-time staff member at the end of June.



LEARNING FORWARD CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

In 1969, Ron Brandt organized a gathering of staff developers in Minneapolis to discuss the issues they faced in their relatively new field. Since then, the gathering turned into a membership organization of more than 11,000 members.

Originally named the National Staff Development Council and rebranded as Learning Forward in 2010, the organization has evolved as the field of professional learning has evolved. Through 2019 and into 2020, Learning Forward will recognize and celebrate this evolution. Keep an eye out for:

- Historical journal content with commentary from some of the field's leading thought leaders;
- Audio interviews with long-term members;
- A timeline of the organization's history;
- In-person celebrations at this year's Annual Conference in St. Louis; and
- Opportunities on social media to share your story as a Learning Forward or NSDC member.

Learning Forward Foundation and Affiliate leaders are joining with Learning Forward staff and members to highlight key moments in our history. If you'd like to participate in anniversary planning, contact Zach Sherburn (zach.sherburn@learningforwrd.org).