



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nashville Public Education Foundation Appoints Three New Leaders to its Board of Directors

Michelle Gaskin Brown, Kate Chinn, and Dr. L. Gregory Jones join NPEF's board to advise foundation on improving Nashville's public schools so ALL children can thrive

NASHVILLE, TENN. – June 27, 2022 – The [Nashville Public Education Foundation \(NPEF\)](#) has appointed three new members to its Board of Directors, including Michelle Gaskin Brown, manager at Amazon; Kate Chinn, former vice president at AllianceBernstein; and Dr. L. Gregory Jones, president of Belmont University. Additionally, Meg Harris, the current board vice-chair and vice president of people at Ancestry, will take over as the foundation's board chair on July 1, 2022. Harris succeeds Tony Heard, a partner at InfoWorks.

"We are thrilled to be adding valuable experts to our Board of Directors," said **Katie Cour, president and CEO of the Nashville Public Education Foundation**. "The new members' expertise and career experience will undoubtedly aid NPEF in its pursuit of fostering a city and school district that consistently prioritizes children and youth."

The new board members were voted in unanimously by the Board of Directors on May 26, 2022, following a months-long nominating process led by Gail Williams, NPEF board member and community leader.

[Michelle Gaskin Brown](#) is the manager of public policy for Amazon in Nashville. Previously, Brown served as the vice president of metro policy for the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce. Before joining the Chamber, she was a legislative attorney with the Office of Legal Services for the Tennessee General Assembly. Recently, Brown joined NPEF to judge its inaugural Teacherpreneur pitch event. Brown and her husband have a daughter.

[Kate Chinn](#) most recently served as head of community and civic engagement for AllianceBernstein. Prior to joining the firm in 2018, Chinn held senior roles at the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce and the Rockefeller Center in New York City. She returned to Nashville in 2015 with her husband and three children. Chinn holds positions on the boards of United Way of Greater Nashville and Harpeth Hall School. A graduate of Leadership Nashville, she serves as program co-chair for the 2022-23 class. The daughter of NPEF's founding chairman Thomas J. Sherrard, Chinn served as co-chair for the 2021 Public Schools Hall of Fame.

[Dr. L. Gregory Jones](#) is the president of Belmont University. Jones previously served as dean of Duke Divinity School, vice president and vice provost for global strategy and programs at Duke University, and provost and executive vice president of Baylor University. In Nashville, Jones serves on the boards of The United Way of Greater Nashville, the Nashville Health Care Council, and the Steering Committee for Nashville's Agenda. An ordained United Methodist pastor, he is married with three children and four grandchildren.

"As a Metro Nashville Public Schools parent, it's an honor to serve an organization working to remove barriers to educational experiences in order to make our public schools more equitable institutions," said **Meg Harris, incoming**



board chair of the Nashville Public Education Foundation. “I’m looking forward to working alongside our new and existing board members to support the development of public schools in Nashville where all kids can thrive.”

To learn more about the Nashville Public Education and its Board of Directors, visit <https://nashvillepef.org/board/>.

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About the Nashville Public Education Foundation

The Nashville Public Education Foundation is a nonprofit organization that works to remove the barriers to educational experiences by highlighting success, serving as a strategic thought partner to Metro Nashville Public Schools, convening stakeholders, and advocating for change so all students can thrive in school. Since its founding in 2002, NPEF has fostered data-driven solutions that have led to tangible results in professional learning for teachers, teacher pay, principal quality, college access and success, and more. To learn about NPEF’s support of Metro Nashville Public Schools and its students, visit nashvillepef.org.

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