



Dear Friends and Colleagues:

It is with mixed emotions that I am writing today to let you know that our CEO, Shelly Masur will be leaving us in June after 5 years as an effective leader for the organization. She has overseen its growth, in programs, funding and staff as well as its unique position in the education landscape. When Shelly took over the reins, CDE Foundation had just partnered with the CDE to host the first STEM Symposium and was exploring several potential high impact programmatic efforts. Since then, among other efforts, the Foundation has continued its strong partnership with CDE to grow and expand the STEAM Symposium; convened coalitions focused on standards implementation and the California School Dashboard; partnered to create the California Labor Management Initiative and supported work at CDE by serving as a fiscal agent for innovative funding secured by the Department. The list of work is too long to detail, but needless to say, as a board, we are very proud of and grateful for our team and our partnerships!

Our partnerships with CDE, funders and education leadership organizations will propel us into the next phase of the organization. Today we are turning to you, our partners, to help us find the next amazing individual to lead our unique organization.

We are including the job description and ask that you share it with anyone you think would be a great candidate for our next CEO. A board committee will be leading the search, headed up by Gerald Solomon, Executive Director of the Samueli Foundation. Our goal is to have our new CEO in place by June so there will be some overlap with Shelly.

Shelly has big plans and we know we will see great things from her in her next adventure. Feel free to reach out to her to find out more. We will do a formal thank you and goodbye in the coming months, but in the meantime, the whole board wishes to express its gratitude to Shelly for the innovative leadership and commitment to excellence she exemplifies every day.

Thank you for your support and your partnership!

Jennifer Peck, Chair