

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bellevue Schools Foundation | September 16, 2022 | Christy Minter, Christy@bsfdn.org

Bellevue Schools Foundation Welcomes Four New Members to Its Board of Trustees

Premier Washington State nonprofit expands its Board of Trustees
to support critical education initiatives in Bellevue.

Bellevue, Washington -- Bellevue Schools Foundation is pleased to announce the election of four new Trustees to support the students, parents, and educators who comprise the Bellevue public school community. The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the addition of Maria Barrios, Renuka Getchell, Irene Kearns, and Jerry Nguyen as its newest board members. Their first terms as Bellevue Schools Foundation Trustees begin this month.



Maria Barrios

Ms. Barrios is a mother of two (Medina Elementary School and Bellevue Big Picture School), Co-Owner of BrandMotif Agency, speaker, Family Advisory Board Member at Seattle Children's Hospital and a Child Mental Health Advocate who is passionate about the well-being and mental health of the Bellevue community. "I feel very honored to be part of BSF Board of Trustees, I have witnessed first-hand the level of commitment and partnership the Foundation has devoted to fund programs and ensure diverse - inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning in our community. As a mom and Child Mental Health Advocate I am looking forward to contributing with my knowledge to support programs that foster the well-being and mental health wellness of our kids in Bellevue School District," shares Maria.

Ms. Getchell is an experienced and passionate advocate for the Bellevue School District, a mother of four, she has three daughters who are graduates of the district, and one daughter in High School at the International School of Bellevue. Renuka shares her excitement about her new role, sharing, "BSF has been such a positive component of the Bellevue School District, and I look forward to contributing." Ms. Getchell was born and raised in the Seattle area and is currently a Residential Broker with Windermere Real Estate.



Renuka Getchell



Irene Kearns

Ms. Kearns has been in the education sector for 20 years, with expertise in elementary literacy. She recently served as the Woodridge PTSA Co-President, and is the current Parent Committee Chair for the Eastside Native American Education program. Irene's contributions to BSF prior to her position as a trustee include support of Spring for Schools and the Education Showcase. Irene is looking forward to bringing her experiences as a Native American woman to BSF, and states, "I am eager to work with the Bellevue Schools Foundation on initiatives that directly impact the students in our community." She is the mother of two boys who attend Woodridge Elementary School and Chinook Middle School, respectively.

Dr. Nguyen and his wife live in Bellevue with their two daughters, with one currently attending International School. For the past 17 years, Jerry has been providing his expertise in strategy and operations to philanthropic organizations in the Pacific Northwest. He has been an active volunteer, serving on the Lake Hills Elementary PTSA as President and as Member-at-large and providing any support needed to his wife as she serves on the International School PTSA as Secretary. Reflecting on becoming a trustee, Jerry shares, "The Bellevue Schools Foundation has had a tremendous positive impact on students within the Bellevue School District. I'm excited to join and work with my fellow trustees to continue to help improve equity for all students."



Jerry Nguyen

Ms. Barrios, Ms. Getchell, Ms. Kearns, and Dr. Nguyen join 15 additional members currently serving the Bellevue Schools Foundation Board of Trustees. To learn more about all the trustees supporting the organization, [click here](#).

ABOUT THE BELLEVUE SCHOOLS FOUNDATION: Established in 1979, Bellevue Schools Foundation (BSF) is the 1st foundation dedicated to supporting public K-12 initiatives in Washington State. Its mission is to promote and fund the best possible learning opportunities for all students in Bellevue's public schools. As a pillar in the community, the Foundation is uniquely positioned to be a catalytic agent of positive change and advancement in the public education sector.