

Leaders of Tomorrow Charter Public School

Founders and Proposed Board of Trustees

This is prepared by the founding group of the proposed Leaders of Tomorrow Charter Public School.

Jason DeFalco is the Director of the founding board. He completed his B.S. in Sociology and Elementary Education at Suffolk University, Boston, MA and his M.Ed. in School Leadership and Administration at Worcester State College, Worcester, MA. Jason has been in the field of education for nearly ten years as a teacher, coach, trainer, curriculum coordinator, and principal.

Joany Santa received her B.A. in Communication and Management from Rhode Island College and her M.Ed. in General Education from Cambridge College, Boston, MA. Joany has been in the field of education for nineteen years. Her experience in the education ranges from classroom teacher, central office employee, to building principal.

David Rosario: Mr. Rosario, who is employed as an IT User Support in Worcester and is a parent of a charter school alum sees the direct need to create a school where 21st century skills and technology were embedded through-out the curriculum in order to prepare youth for the technological world, not yet invented. His role on the board provides the school with a strong base of knowledge on how to maximize learning and instruction through technology based on his ten years of experience integrating technology into academic environments.

Krista Winter: Mrs. Winter has experienced significant problems with finding appropriate educational opportunities for her sons in the Worcester District Schools. The District Schools were not supplying the rigor or the structure to help them excel. As a person who is committed to improving education she joined the Board to create a school that would nurture as well as supply the youth of Worcester with rigorous academic programming, develop their leadership skills, and providing a diverse experience with other cultures. Krista Winter has the role of secretary of the board and a strong parent voice. Krista's background in Medical Record Analysis is an asset in our work as she is able to track and analyze data that is vital to our understanding of how Loft will benefit the Worcester community. She is integral to our community outreach efforts.

Ellen Lincourt: Ms. Lincourt has a museum educator and not-for-profit management and non-traditional educational theory background. Ms. Lincourt felt an immediate attachment to the idea of a school that would inculcate leadership skills. Ms. Lincourt has had responsibility for managing budgets and personnel and grant writing. Most recently, as the Administrative Assistant in the Academic Technology Center, she has assisted in the management of a departmental budget with operational costs in excess of 300,000 dollars a year and the purchasing of equipment of over a million dollars annually. As the Manager of Visitor Services at the EcoTarium she had complete responsibility for a departmental budget of over 250,000 dollars. She has also assisted with grant writing and administration in many of her positions.

Linda Lamica: Mrs. Lamica served as the Expanded Learning Time Coordinator for Southbridge Public Schools at West Street School and joined the Board in September. She has an extensive background in the insurance and office management field. The networking and organizational skills she brings to the Board are exceptional. Her background from the Mass2020 training she received as the ELT Coordinator has served Loft well in developing community partnerships, draft memorandum of agreements, training for the volunteers and other community partners.

James Donahue: Jim Donahue is highly regarded in the non-profit sector as a collaborative visionary. He is recognized as one of the top non-profit executives in New England with an impressive background in leadership, education, and fundraising. Prior to taking the position as President and CEO for Old Sturbridge Village in 2007, Mr. Donahue was the CEO of the Bradford Dunn Institute for Learning Differences in Providence, RI. The Institute operates a network of high-quality programs that include The Hasbro Center for Teaching Excellence, the RI Tutorial and Educational Services, and the CVS Highlander Charter School, which Mr. Donahue founded in 2000. Mr. Donahue negotiated the merger between the Bradford Dunn Institute and CVS Highlander Charter School in 2004. During his seven year tenure as the director of the charter school, he led the renovation of two campuses for the school and the establishment of several key capacity-building partnerships.

Sean Parker: Mr. Parker was a wide range of experience as a museum professional (twenty-one years), including fourteen years in management, expertise in managing projects and educational programs. His demonstrated ability in project management, personnel management, program planning and development, and training is a true asset. Mr. Parker has extensive experience in staff training and management, theory and history of education, multicultural history and diversity. Mr. Parker developed community-based exhibits, programs and educational initiatives, where he incorporating educational best practices. He participated in the Social Studies frameworks development project for the RI Dept. of Ed; provided guidance and materials for standards development and content sessions for teacher training institutes addressing the new standards. He is a highly driven individual with secured leadership skills.

Dr. Mustapha Fofana: As an associate professor at the Worcester Polytechnic Institute Dr. Fofana heads the Mechanical Engineering department. He has a PhD from the University of Waterloo, in Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (1993). He has been published in engineering journals among them; *Wear Journal*, *International Journal of Non-Linear Mechanics*, *Probabilistic Engineering Mechanics*, *Mathematical and Computer Modeling*. Professor Fofana is also an accomplished speaker and lecturer for organizations such as ASME International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition Symposium on Nonlinear Dynamics and Stochastic Mechanics.