



Dear Applicant:

This letter provides an overview of the Education Leadership Institute - Jefferson Parish (ELI), a program designed to build your leadership skills and knowledge about the educational policy landscape in Jefferson and in Louisiana. **The ultimate goal of ELI is to build a cohort of graduates who possess the necessary policy and leadership skills to advocate as community leaders or serve as elected leaders in education both locally and statewide.**

In order to participate in ELI, you must live and/or work in the greater Jefferson area and have a desire and vested interest to improve Jefferson's educational landscape. You must also commit to attending ELI over five Saturdays during April-June. Each session will last four-six hours and include highly interactive discussions with local educational leaders. Breakfast and lunch will be provided to participants. In addition to the Saturday sessions, five experience sessions are planned. These experiences are designed to immerse participants in the education policy-making process and to provide context for each of the topics listed below. Experiences will vary in length and location. *To be considered an ELI graduate, attendance at a minimum of four sessions and experiences is mandatory.* An optional, fifth session and experience will be available for ELI graduates interested in learning more about how to run for elected office.

As a member of the ELI, you will learn about:

- *Local school governance issues:* What is the relationship between the Jefferson Parish Public School System, the School Board, and the state? How can we create a culture of collaboration that creates and sustains a focus on student achievement?
- *School finance:* What are our sources of local, state, and federal funding? How does money filter to schools? How can different sources of revenue be leveraged to achieve strategic goals, promote equity, and improve outcomes for **all** students?
- *Education advocacy and community engagement:* What is the history of community advocacy in Jefferson Parish, and what does it look like today? How can the civic and private sectors support education?
- *School supports for success:* What do schools need from their board members, elected officials, and community leaders in order to be successful? What are the milestone metrics that can and should be closely monitored to ensure equity and access for ALL students?
- *Winning political strategies:* What are the mechanics of running a successful campaign for public office or the passage of ballot initiatives? How can groups effectively lobby elected officials for policies in the best interest of children?

The tentative cohort dates are: June 16th, June 30th, July 14th, August 11th, September 8th from 9:00am-1:00pm. Locations will vary.

Access the application [here](#); **completed applications are due by May 15th, 2018**. If you have any questions throughout the application process, please contact Mallory Padgett (mpadgett@stand.org). We look forward to your application!