Executive Director of National PTA Joins Learning First Alliance Board of Directors

Nathan R. Monell brings extensive experience leading nonprofit organizations and associations to new role at LFA

Washington, D.C. – May 19, 2015 – The Learning First Alliance (LFA), a partnership of leading education organizations representing more than 10 million parents, educators and policymakers, welcomes Nathan R. Monell, executive director of National PTA, as its newest board member. An advocate for parental engagement in schools and the continued educational success of students nationwide, Monell brings extensive leadership experience working with nonprofit organizations and associations to his new role at LFA.

“Nathan Monell’s impressive background in leading nonprofit organizations and associations will be an asset to the LFA Board of Directors and our organization's work to advance public education,” said Cheryl S. Williams, executive director of the Learning First Alliance. “Under the collective leadership of all of our board of directors, and through the ongoing work of their respective organizations, LFA continues to make great strides in its advocacy of public education and improved teaching and learning.”

Bringing more than 20 years of experience leading nonprofit organizations and associations, Monell joined National PTA as its executive director on May 11, 2015. Prior to the National PTA, Monell most recently served as the president and CEO of the National Council for Community and Education Partnerships, the advocacy, technical assistance and training organization for the federal GEAR UP program (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate
Programs). GEAR UP is a $300 million program of the U.S. Department of Education that serves some 600,000 students from low-income communities by helping them enroll and succeed in postsecondary institutions. Prior to this position, Monell was president and CEO of Foster Care Alumni of America, a national advocacy association of adults who were in the foster care system as children.

Monell holds an M.A. in Communication Studies from the University of Michigan with a focus on organizational communication and behavior. He earned his B.A. in Speech from Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids, Mich. He is a 2002 graduate of the Georgetown University Center for Professional Development’s Nonprofit Management Certification Program and received his Certified Association Executive (CAE) designation from the American Society of Association Executives in 2009.

To learn more about National PTA, visit www.pta.org. To learn more about the LFA, visit www.learningfirst.org.

**About The Learning First Alliance**


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