



FUND FOR
EDUCATIONAL
EXCELLENCE

Realize what's possible.

PRESS RELEASE

BALTIMORE, March 5, 2010.... The Fund for Educational Excellence (the “Fund”) announced today that President and Chief Executive Officer Lisa M. Wright will be leaving the organization in early June to spend more time with her family.

“During her tenure at the Fund, Lisa Wright has served in many important management capacities and has been an integral part of the Fund’s senior leadership for more than a decade,” said Jim Mathias, Chair of the Fund’s Board of Directors. “We are very sorry to see Lisa go, and we recognize that she will be difficult to replace. But Lisa leaves the Fund with a strong platform of key relationships and fiscal responsibility upon which we can continue to build.”

Ms. Wright was appointed President and CEO of the Fund in December 2007. She previously served as Acting President and CEO, Chief Operating Officer, and Director of Finance and Administration. Part of the Fund’s family for more than eleven years, Ms. Wright played an active role in the development and implementation of many of the Fund’s signature reform initiatives, including its nationally recognized *Achievement First* whole-school literacy reform model and its multi-year partnership with the Baltimore City Public Schools (City Schools) to dramatically reform the high school experience for all of Baltimore’s students.

Under Ms. Wright’s leadership, the Fund completed a comprehensive business planning process that was underwritten by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. She also improved internal operations, with an emphasis on effective financial management, and helped position the organization to be a key partner to Baltimore City Public Schools and other community-based organizations throughout the City. “It has been an incredibly rewarding experience to lead the important work of this organization and I am committed to supporting an effective leadership transition over the next several months,” Wright said. “I remain inspired, encouraged and heartened by the progress our students are making every day. It has been a privilege to be a part of it.”

A search for a new President and CEO will begin immediately. More information, including a job description, can be found on the Fund's website at www.ffee.org.

Founded in 1984 as a partnership of businesses, parents, educators, and community leaders, the Fund for Educational Excellence is a 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is *to attract critical resources and support their effective implementation to achieve educational excellence for all students in the City Schools*. For over 25 years, the Fund has enjoyed a successful partnership with City Schools. Its efforts play an important role in the continuing improvement of Baltimore's public schools from providing high impact professional development to supporting key district strategies such as college and career readiness, community engagement and new school creation.

To learn more about the Fund, please visit its website at www.ffee.org.

For more information, please contact Sharon Dondes at sharond@ffee.org.