



Jocelyn Pickford

Jocelyn Pickford is an education policy and communications specialist with an expansive career in the private, public and non-profit sectors. She has executed strategic research, analysis, project management and communications initiatives for clients including Learning Heroes, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, George W. Bush Institute, College Board, New Jersey Department of Education, We Raise New Jersey, Strada Education Network, Philadelphia Academy of School Leaders and

Margaret Spellings & Company. Previously, she served as the education director of Hope Street Group, a public policy non-profit organization, where she developed the strategic plan for the group's education platform.

From 2007 to 2009, Jocelyn worked as special assistant in the Office of the Secretary and chief of staff in the Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs at the U.S. Department of Education, where she led the design, launch and implementation of the Teaching Ambassador Fellowship to integrate teachers into the national education policy dialogue. In 2006, she was selected for the White House Fellowship, one of the nation's most prestigious programs for leadership and public service, and spent a year studying government, policy and leadership in the executive branch.

Jocelyn's passion for her work was seeded during her own public school education and took root during her classroom teaching experience. From 2002-2006, she served as a secondary English teacher in Fairfax County, Virginia where she led action research, presented instructional materials and participated in national conferences and workshops. Jocelyn always seeks to include practitioner viewpoints and meaningful engagement in conversations about policy at every level.

Jocelyn earned a bachelor's degree in English from Trinity College in Connecticut, working as a professional writer and editor prior to becoming a teacher. She obtained her master's in secondary education from the George Washington University (GW) and has served as the Chair of GW's National Council for Education and Human Development. She also volunteers her time for Connect Our Kids, a national nonprofit seeking improvements to the foster care system. Jocelyn lives outside Philadelphia with her husband and two children and is a proud public school parent and active PTO member.