



Naperville Education Foundation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Naperville Education Foundation Welcomes 4 Trustees and Re-Elects Board Officers

[NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS, July 8, 2024] The [Naperville Education Foundation](https://www.nef203.org) (NEF), the non-profit arm of Naperville School District 203, welcomes Meena Banasiak, Victoria Freier, Audrey E. Lane and Jackie Pajor to the Board of Trustees. The Board re-elected officers, effective July 1, 2024, with Julie Beehler and Jenny Tank as Board Co-Chairs and Kelly Llewellyn as Secretary. Stephanie Hebron was re-elected as Treasurer. Donna Wandke will be the voting trustee from the Naperville 203 School Board.

NEF's volunteer board is made up of passionate community members who are dedicated to bettering the lives of students. For more information, visit www.nef203.org, or email NEF at nef@naperville203.org.

New Trustees:



Meena Banasiak is Vice President of Quality and Social Impact at Phoenix Closures. Meena holds a degree in engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and is a Certified Quality Engineer. She is a parent of three Naperville 203 students and an active volunteer within the school district and the larger community. She enjoys developing student outreach initiatives for businesses and serves as a Board Member for Loaves and Fishes Community Services and Naperville Neighbors United. "The nature of the programs that NEF supports demonstrates a deep commitment to equity, which is extremely important to me," Meena said. "I also believe, as a parent of D203 students, that being directly involved with the district greatly enhances my ability to be a partner in their success. Because my kids are benefiting so

significantly from their experience in D203, it is only fitting that I reciprocate by putting my time and skills toward building and sustaining the programs they have access to.”



Victoria Freier is Director of Outpatient Programs at Endeavor Health Linden Oaks. Victoria holds a double master's degree from University of St. Francis and is a Psychiatric - Mental Health Board Certified Registered Nurse. Victoria promotes mental health and suicide prevention education to decrease stigma and encourage those in need to seek help. Victoria is a member of the DuPage County Behavioral Health Collaborative, ad hoc board member of the Illinois American Psychiatric Nurses Association Illinois, and community volunteer. “My mother raised my sister and me alone, she worked several jobs to provide for us, she stressed the importance of education and I know how education can make a difference in one's life,” Victoria said. “All of my children had the experience of attending district 203 schools, and the education and support they received prepared them for their future.”



Audrey E. Lane is a Partner at Fletcher & Sippel LLC. Audrey holds a degree from Vanderbilt University and a Juris Doctor degree from DePaul University College of Law. Audrey is a parent of three Naperville 203 students, an active community volunteer and held several leadership roles in SUCCESS in 203. She is also specially trained as an adoption advocate and adoptive parent mentor. “NEF is an integral arm of the District and the group and its work is essential to continue to offer the array of opportunities for our students currently in place, but also to develop new programming where beneficial,” Audrey said. “I have personally witnessed with my own children how the dedication of parent and community volunteers can directly shape student outcomes. I am committed to this dedication and very much interested in giving my time and talents to NEF to continue this essential work.”



Jackie Pajor is a retired Naperville 203 teacher and a lifelong resident of Naperville. Jackie holds a degree from North Central College and a masters from National Louis University. She is also a member of the Naperville Woman’s Club. All five of Jackie’s children are Naperville 203 graduates and her second oldest grandchild is an in-coming Naperville 203 kindergartner. “I have wanted to give back to the district I attended as a student and worked my entire teaching career in,” Jackie said. “I know how much NEF does for our community in District 203 and I would love to be a part of it going forward.”

The Naperville Education Foundation is Naperville 203’s philanthropic fundraising arm that encourages creativity, innovation, and excellence in our students by helping to ensure that every student in the district can take advantage of opportunities to make the most of their education. With the generous support of foundations, businesses, and individual donors, NEF funds help remove barriers to learning, bring great ideas to life, and support each school’s unique community.

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