



HighScope Educational Research Foundation

November 1, 2019

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

On behalf of the HighScope board of directors, I am writing to share that Dr. Cheryl Polk is resigning from HighScope on December 4, 2019. Throughout the five-and-a-half years she served as President, her lifelong commitment to the mission that every child deserves a high-quality, equitable early education has been her driving passion. I am sure she carries this with her as she returns to California to be with her family.

During Cheryl's tenure, HighScope's research agenda was anchored to its foundation in the Perry Preschool Project and brought into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century through its partnership with the Heckman Institute and the new intergenerational studies. These and other practical inquiries have revealed what makes children succeed today and throughout their lives.

Over the last 5 years, the HighScope footprint has continued to increase across the states through our new partnerships in San Antonio and Seattle, across the globe in our International Institutes, and through the expansion of our annual conference in Detroit that has served several thousand early educators and partners through the years. Also, under Cheryl's leadership, the groundwork has been laid to expand the developmental preschool on the HighScope campus that will continue to grow in size and scope into 2030.

The Board is dedicated to maintaining Cheryl's vision to equity and diversity along with furthering the legacy of HighScope. For the short-term the organization will be led by an internal executive team under the Board's guidance. We will identify an Interim CEO for 2020 and will conclude with appointing the new President by early 2021.

We welcome your feedback for this process. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments, and please join us in wishing Cheryl all the best. As always, thank you for all you do for young children and their success.

Sincerely,

Jana Martella - Chair  
HighScope Board of Directors



H I G H S C O P E . O R G

T 734.485.2000 • F 734.485.4467 • 600 North River St. Ypsilanti, MI 48198