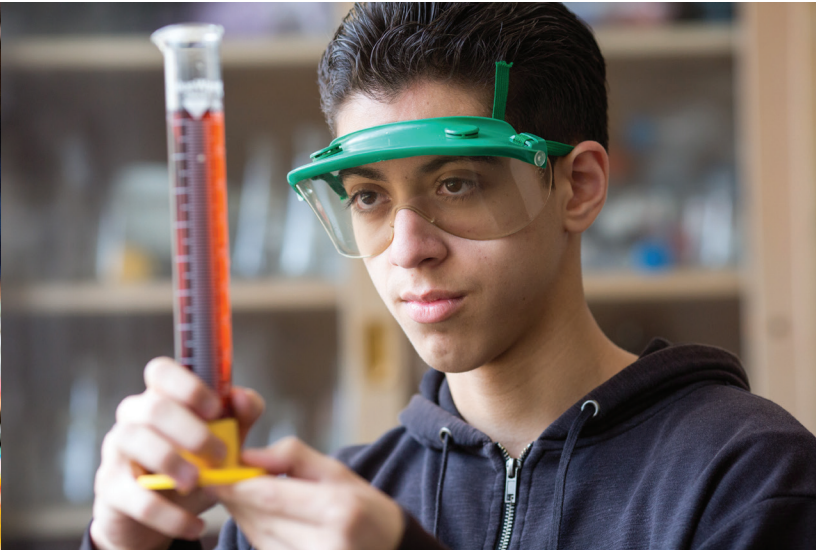




Philanthropy ADVOCATES



Philanthropy Advocates brings together almost 60 private, community and corporate foundations working across Texas to improve outcomes for Texas students by amplifying and engaging the philanthropic sector in complex policy and advocacy efforts.

What We Believe

Every Texas student should have effective educational opportunities from early learning to career and that grantmakers have a role to play in advancing education policy.

We are strictly nonpartisan, working with communities representing a variety of perspectives and beliefs to grow innovative and effective practices through state education policy.

We Aim to Ensure Every Student Has the Following:

- Access to early childhood education settings that lead to **foundational early reading and math success**
- **Effective educators** who are prepared, supported and fairly compensated
- Capacity to pursue and complete **postsecondary opportunities** that lead to family-sustaining wages and economic mobility, and
- Access to **equitably resourced, effective education systems** (from early childhood through post secondary).

“Philanthropy Advocates is a trusted partner for our members as grantmakers learn and engage in education policy issues. Supporting students is the core focus for our members, and Philanthropy Advocates keeps students at the heart of our collective efforts.”

—Grant Coates, Board Chair of Philanthropy Advocates and CEO of The Miles Foundation



Becky Calahan
Managing Director, Strategy & Operations
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Becky has led Philanthropy Advocates since 2021 with a strategic focus on advancing student success by supporting and improving education. Through dynamic programming and advocacy initiatives that amplify the Texas philanthropic sector, Becky serves as a trusted partner to Texas philanthropies and state policymakers in uplifting timely data, research and community examples to achieve results for students and communities.

Becky previously worked in the Texas Legislature for a member of the Texas House Committee on Public Education and the Texas House Committee on Appropriations, Article III Subcommittee. She is a former graduate fellow at the Greater Texas Foundation, and worked for Philanthropy Advocates through many organizational evolutions from the Texas Education Grantmakers Advocacy Consortium to the organization it is today.



Ryan Franklin
Managing Director, Policy & Advocacy
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Ryan joined Philanthropy Advocates in 2024 after serving as a pivotal figure at Educate Texas under the Communities Foundation of Texas, where he advanced policies to support Texas students and teachers. Prior to his time at Educate Texas, Ryan was the associate commissioner for educator leadership and quality at the Texas Education Agency, overseeing educator preparation and licensure.

Ryan's previous roles include policy advisor to former commissioners of education Michael Williams and Robert Scott, as well as service on the Texas Senate Committee on Education staff. Starting his career as a classroom teacher in rural Texas, Ryan is a first-generation college graduate who understands firsthand the life-changing power of education.