

## Welcome Ryan Franklin to Philanthropy Advocates

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### Ryan Franklin joins Philanthropy Advocates as Managing Director of Policy & Advocacy

*Veteran education advocate teams up with fellow Managing Director Becky Calahan*

AUSTIN – Ryan Franklin has joined [Philanthropy Advocates](#) as Managing Director, Policy & Advocacy, in an exciting development for the nonprofit membership association. Working alongside Becky Calahan, the Managing Director, Strategy & Operations, this duo will co-lead the organization through the 2025 legislative session and beyond.

Ryan has been a pivotal figure at Educate Texas under the Communities Foundation of Texas, where he played a key role in advancing 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.

“With his extensive background in policy and advocacy, I am excited to partner with Ryan to achieve our vision for Texas students, teachers and communities,” said Becky Calahan. “He has deep respect from peers across many varying perspectives, making him an invaluable addition to our Philanthropy Advocates team.”

Philanthropy Advocates is a membership association of private, community and corporate foundations across Texas working to support and improve Texas education systems through amplifying and engaging the philanthropic sector in complex policy and advocacy efforts. This legislative session they will pursue policy changes to ensure every Texas student:

- Has access to early childhood education settings that lead to foundational early reading and math success
- Has effective educators who are prepared, supported and fairly compensated
- Is equipped to pursue and complete postsecondary opportunities that lead to family-sustaining wages and economic mobility, and
- Has access to equitably resourced, effective education systems (from early childhood through postsecondary).

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.

“I’ve been a Philanthropy Advocates fan and collaborator for many years, and I’m grateful for this opportunity,” said Franklin. “I share the organization’s vision that all Texas students have access to effective education systems that enable them to pursue their dreams and equip them for economic mobility and lifelong success.”