



## **JAYDA BATCHELDER, CEO & FOUNDER OF EDUCATION OPENS DOORS, TO STEP DOWN AFTER 10 YEARS OF SERVICE**

***Following a decade of growth and impact, Batchelder to leave the lauded education non profit in a position of strength for its next chapter***

**DALLAS (Mar. 10, 2022)** - [Education Opens Doors \(EOD\)](#), a Dallas-based non profit partnering with middle schools across the country to train teachers to equip their students with college and career knowledge and skills needed for long-term success, today announced that its Founder and CEO, Jayda Batchelder, will step down this summer.

Having launched EOD in 2012 with a vision of closing the opportunity gap for historically underserved middle school students facing college and career decisions earlier than ever before, Batchelder and her team developed a customized, innovative curriculum and program that is now on its 11th edition. The program provides up to 900 minutes of in-school college and career advising compared to only 38 minutes on average that students receive on average in public high schools.

“It’s hard to believe EOD is celebrating its 10th anniversary,” said Batchelder. “I’m deeply proud of the commitment of our team and the impact this organization has had on middle school students – from my initial 8th grade classroom to the hundreds of classrooms across the state and nation. We have legitimized the need for college- and career-connected programming to be taught in middle school and are on track to implement our work across the second largest school district in Texas. While it’s the right time for me to move onto my next chapter, I have no doubt great things are in store for EOD in the years to come.”

Since its inception, EOD has grown from serving 1,500 students annually to 13,000 students annually – a total of more than 80,000 students to date. Additionally, under Batchelder’s leadership the organization has raised more than \$12M in revenue to support, improve and expand the vision.

EOD continues its expansion across Texas with current school district partners, and into other states including Missouri, Arkansas, Massachusetts, and the District of Columbia. The organization offers several program models designed to provide customized support to middle schools through a student-focused, blended learning experience.

“Jayda’s vision for Education Opens Doors and commitment to student impact is unwavering and her leadership in this important educational sector has been transformational,” said Jeff George, Chairman of the EOD Board of Directors. “It has been my great privilege to work alongside her the past several years to support the mission of this incredible organization. We wish her all the best as she takes on her next adventure.”

The EOD Board of Directors will launch a nationwide search in the coming weeks in order to identify the organization's next CEO, with the intent to name Batchelder's successor by the 2022-23 school year.

**About Education Opens Doors**

Celebrating its 10-year anniversary in 2022, Education Opens Doors believes that when doors open, lives change. The nonprofit organization focuses on career and college preparedness during the increasingly critical middle school years through a proprietary "train the trainer" approach and flexible curriculum equips teachers, parents, and other adults to give students a strong foundation for success. To date, EOD has opened doors for over 80,000 underserved students and partnered with hundreds of middle schools across the U.S. <https://educationopensdoors.org/>

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