



## **EOD Appoints Dr. Jeannie Stone, Drexell Owusu, and Dr. Eric Ban to its Board of Directors**

### ***The trio brings decades of public education experience to EOD***

**January 6, 2023**

**DALLAS, TX** – The Board of Directors of [Education Opens Doors \(“EOD”\)](#), a Dallas-based non-profit which partners with middle schools to train teachers to equip their students with college and career knowledge, announced today the appointment of Dr. Jeannie Stone, Drexell Owusu, and Dr. Eric Ban to its Board of Directors. Stone, Owusu, and Ban will join the board effective immediately.

The new Board members bring over eight decades of public education and business growth experience to EOD. “We are thrilled to announce that Dr. Stone, Mr. Owusu, and Dr. Ban will be joining our Board of Directors,” said EOD Board Chairman Jeff George. “Their deep knowledge of district-level needs and incredible experience as educators and business leaders will bolster the EOD Board’s ability to scale its impactful programs, which have served over 80,000 students since our founding in 2012, to even more students as we continue to grow. It is a testament to EOD as an organization that we were able to attract board members of their caliber.”

“I echo Jeff’s excitement for Jeannie, Drexell, and Eric joining our Board of Directors,” said EOD CEO Roscoe Compton-Kelly. “Their success in educational and business leadership has been transformational for hundreds of thousands of students and families across the region. I am looking forward to working alongside all three as EOD continues to grow and reach new markets.”

Stone, Owusu and Ban’s educational and business leadership includes:

- **Dr. Jeannie Stone** served as Superintendent of Schools for the Richardson Independent School District (ISD), a suburban district in Dallas and Collin counties, from 2016 to 2021. Prior to this she served as an Assistant Superintendent of Wylie ISD for four years after spending over 20 years with Mesquite ISD. Dr. Stone is Board Chair at Leadership ISD as well as Economic Mobility Systems, an educational technology spin-out of The Commit Partnership. She has taught graduate courses at Texas A&M University and has been recognized for her innovative leadership and commitment to children. She was named the 2019 Texas Superintendent of the Year by the Texas PTA, Altrusa International’s 2018 Outstanding Woman in Education, and the 2017 Superintendent of the Year by the Texas Educational Support Staff Association. Stone holds a BA in English from the University of Texas-Arlington, an MA in Educational Leadership from Texas A&M, and a PhD at Nova Southeastern University in Educational Leadership and Administration.
- **Drexell Owusu** currently serves as the Chief Impact Officer for The Dallas Foundation. Prior to this, Owusu served as SVP for Education and Workforce for the Dallas Regional Chamber after serving as managing director at Civitas Capital Group, an investment company with over \$1.3 billion in assets, where he was responsible for strategy, operations, and administration. Owusu previously served as Vice President of Business Development at Blockbuster and as a strategy consultant at Accenture. Owusu has been a board member of Education is Freedom since 2014 and served on the board at The Kessler School from 2015 to 2018. He earned his BA in History at Rice University, where he was one of 10 Rice-Baylor Scholars and a two-time Track and Field All-American.

- **Dr. Eric J Ban** is the Executive Director of Economic Mobility Systems, an educational technology spin-out of The Commit Partnership which supports state, regional, and institutional data and system solutions. Dr. Ban previously served as Managing Director of the Dallas County Promise within The Commit Partnership from 2017 to 2021 and has assisted multiple regions of Texas with developing their postsecondary regional collaborative strategy. Dr. Ban has also served as the Senior Vice President of Program Innovation at Dallas-based Academic Partnerships, where he developed programs and solutions for universities to better serve students through online programs around the world. He was previously Founder of College Acceleration Network and VP of Program Development at Higher Ed Holdings. Dr. Ban has been a high school principal, teacher, and coach as well as a visiting professor at Indiana University. He holds a BA in Chemistry, Biology and Physics Education from Indiana University, where he also earned an MA in Chemistry and a PhD in Educational Leadership.

“I am delighted to join the Board of Directors of Education Opens Doors,” said Dr. Jeannie Stone. “From starting as an English teacher in 1989 to my time as Superintendent of the Richardson Independent School District most recently, I have seen firsthand the knowledge and opportunity gaps that exist when it comes to college and career readiness. EOD is doing amazing work closing these gaps, and I’m excited to help the organization think strategically about how to reach even more students and families.”

“The impact that EOD has had across North Texas and beyond makes me proud to be a part of the organization,” said Owusu. “I see incredible potential for EOD to expand its impact in new markets, and I’m excited to help the organization grow and think strategically about reaching new district partners, ultimately improving the educational opportunities of thousands more students and families.”

“EOD deeply understands the importance of teaching students and their families about their postsecondary options, and has a proven model for program impact,” said Ban. “Their early intervention model is a critical piece of the effort to achieve equitable postsecondary and workforce outcomes possible, for all students.”

### **About Education Opens Doors**

Founded in 2012, 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. EOD’s proprietary curriculum and training equips teachers, parents, and other adults to help students imagine and prepare for their futures. To date, EOD has opened doors for over 80,000 underserved students and partnered with hundreds of middle schools across Dallas and beyond. For more information visit <https://educationopensdoors.org/>. Connect with EOD on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/EducationOpensDoors/>, Twitter at [@Openingthedor](https://twitter.com/Openingthedor) or on Instagram at [@educationopensdoors](https://www.instagram.com/educationopensdoors).

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