

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Major Education Alliance Announces Election of New Chair**

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The Learning First Alliance (LFA) announced that Dr. William Bushaw, executive director of Phi Delta Kappa International, became LFA's 2009/2010 chair on July 1, 2009.

"Our nation's schools face great opportunities and great challenges," said Bushaw. "The member organizations of the Learning First Alliance have the collective wisdom and power to help schools face these issues in a way that will promote educational innovation and excellence in our public schools. With that in mind, it's my privilege and honor to serve as chairperson of the Alliance this year."

"Learning First Alliance organizations represent the millions of people--parents, educators and policymakers--who work for public school children every day" said LFA executive director Claus von Zastrow. "As a nationally-renowned education leader, Bill Bushaw is poised to help the Alliance broadly promote the practical and innovative solutions members of the education community are implementing every day."

Bushaw assumes the chair from Brenda Lilienthal Welburn, executive director of the National Association of State Boards of Education. This position rotates each fiscal year among leaders of LFA member organizations.

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LFA is a permanent partnership of 17 leading education associations with more than 10 million members dedicated to improving student learning in America's public schools. Alliance members include: the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, American Association of School Administrators, American Association of School Personnel Administrators, American Federation of Teachers, American School Counselor Association, Association of School Business Officials International, Council of Chief State School Officers, National Association of Elementary School Principals, National Association of Secondary School Principals, National Association of State Boards of Education, National Education Association, National Middle School Association, National School Public Relations Association, National Staff Development Council, National PTA, National School Boards Association and Phi Delta Kappa International.