

Foundations for Schools in an Era of Sustainability
Presenter Profiles
October 3, 2007

William Clay Ford, Jr., Executive Chairman of Ford Motor Company. Bill Ford is leading the company that put the world on wheels into the 21st century. A member of the board since 1988, Mr. Ford became chairman in January 1999. He serves as chairman of the board's Finance Committee and as a member of the Environmental and Public Policy Committee. He also served as chief executive officer of the company from October 2001 to September 2006.

Bill Ford joined Ford Motor Company in 1979 as a product planning analyst. He subsequently held a variety of positions in manufacturing, sales, marketing, product development and finance. During the breakthrough 1982 Ford - United Auto Workers labor talks, which launched the employee involvement movement that revolutionized the industry, he served on the company's National Bargaining Team.

Mr. Ford was elected a company vice president and head of the company's Commercial Truck Vehicle Center in 1994. He left that position in order to assume the chairmanship of the Board of Directors' Finance Committee in 1995.

A lifelong environmentalist, Mr. Ford is committed to increasing shareholder value by developing products that please customers and benefit society. In 2000, under his leadership, Ford Motor Company published its first corporate citizenship report outlining the economic, environmental and social impact of company products and operations around the world. That year the company also began the restoration of its Ford Rouge Center in metropolitan Detroit.

Mr. Ford's charitable, volunteer and business efforts are highlighted by his commitment to the city of Detroit. Mr. Ford was born in Detroit in 1957. He is an avid fly fisherman and car enthusiast, enjoys playing hockey and tennis, and is a black belt in the martial art of Tae Kwon Do. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Princeton University and a Master of Science degree in management from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

Dr. Linda C. Wing, Deputy Director and Senior Lecturer, The University of Chicago Center for Urban School Improvement. Linda's work centers on supporting the University of Chicago Charter School campuses and developing the USI Network of 20 schools. She began her work as a high school teacher of English and history. As a teacher leader she co-founded a small school within a comprehensive high school. Linda went on to head a national project that developed bilingual curriculum materials for elementary school children and an urban education technology initiative for a Fortune 200 company. Prior to coming to USI, she co-directed a Harvard University doctoral program that prepares urban school leaders. Linda is also a founding member of the Henry Ford Academies of Illinois Board of Directors.

Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley. A former state senator and county prosecutor, Daley was elected Mayor on April 4, 1989, to complete the term of the late Harold Washington, and was re-elected in 1991, 1995, 1999, 2003 and 2007 by overwhelming margins.

Daley assumed responsibility for the Chicago Public Schools in 1995. Daley has pushed especially hard to improve the teaching of reading and to increase parental involvement in education. Student scores on standardized tests have risen consistently since 1995 and have surpassed national norms in some areas. In 2004, Daley announced Renaissance 2010, a plan to create 100 new schools by 2010 to replace low-performing schools, provide new educational options to underserved communities and relieve overcrowding. Henry Ford Academy: Power House High is proud to be a part of Renaissance 2010.

Arne Duncan, Chief Executive Officer, Chicago Public Schools graduated magna cum laude from Harvard University in 1987. He was co-captain of Harvard's basketball team and was named a first team Academic All-American. From 1987-1991, Mr. Duncan played professional basketball in Australia, where he also worked with children who were wards of the state.

In June, 2001, Mayor Richard M. Daley named Duncan Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Public Schools. Duncan currently serves on several boards, including Chicago Cares, the Golden Apple Foundation, the Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence, Junior Achievement, the National Association of

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Basketball Coaches' Foundation, Renaissance Schools Fund, Scholarship Chicago and the South Side YMCA. In 2006, the City Club of Chicago named him Citizen of the Year.

Sabrena L. Davis, Founding Principal of Henry Ford Academy: Power House High. In that role she will establish a culture of high expectations for personal and academic achievement, develop and lead a high-performing staff, encourage parental involvement, and deliver on the school's promise to prepare all students for post-secondary education and career success.

Sabrena has a wealth of diverse experience in urban education and serving high need communities, in both the Chicago and metro Atlanta areas. She began her career as an English and Reading teacher at Gage Park High School. Since that time she has steadily amassed teaching and leadership experience at both the high school and elementary levels.

Sabrena earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Education from Dominican University in River Forest, Ill., and was the first African-American to be named Lincoln Laureate at Dominican. She also earned a Master of Arts degree in Public Administration from Troy State University in Troy, Ala., and is currently pursuing an Ed.D in Urban Education Leadership at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

John Nichols, Vice Chairman, the Marmon Group. While at Harvard John became the number one right tackle on Harvard's freshman team of 1949, and moved into the varsity lineup as a sophomore. John earned his BA in 1953, and immediately went on to receive his MBA with distinction from Harvard Business School in 1955. From 1958 to 1968, John worked at Ford Motor Company, holding several finance and operating positions, including assistant general manager, micro-electronics, Philco Ford.

In 1980, John joined Illinois Tool Works, Inc, a diversified manufacturer of highly engineered components and industrial systems. He was named President and Chief Operating Officer in 1981, Chief Executive Officer in 1982, and Chairman in 1986. During his tenure, the company grew from sales of \$400 million to nearly \$5 billion in 1996. In January 2002, John joined the Marmon Group, Inc. as President and Chief Executive Officer. The Marmon Group is an international association of more than 100 private manufacturing and service companies that operate independently. Member companies had collective revenues in excess of \$5.5 billion in 2003. John is the founding Chairman of the Henry Ford Academies of Illinois Board of Directors.

John Nichols is one of Chicago's greatest benefactors. Through gifts totaling \$19 million, Alexandra C. and John D. Nichols are a major force behind the Art Institute of Chicago's campaign to build the Modern Wing. In recognition of their extraordinary support, the museum will name the building's dramatic Renzo Piano-designed bridge in their honor. These campaign commitments place Alexandra and John Nichols prominently among the most significant patrons in the Art Institute's history,

Steve Seleznow, Director, Education, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Steven is a program director who leads education grantmaking for the western United States and Ohio. Prior to joining the foundation, Seleznow served as partner and Chief Investment Officer at Venture Philanthropy Partners in Washington, D.C. He brings to the foundation nearly 30 years of leadership and management experience in public education, having led the Montgomery County, Md., Public Schools as deputy superintendent for education and the District of Columbia Public Schools as chief of staff and interim superintendent. Prior to these appointments, Seleznow was a teacher, an elementary and a secondary school principal, and he served in district administrative and leadership roles.

Seleznow earned a doctorate and master's degree in administration, planning, and social policy from Harvard University, a master's of arts degree from the University of Maryland, and is a graduate of Boston University.