



Board2Board™ North Texas - December 5, 2024

## CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOS



**Shawn Callaway** became the President and Owner of FI in August 2022. He started his career in nonprofit management in 1993, and has accrued 30 years of experience in non-profit management and has been on the FI team since 2015. From religious and education to business and economic development nonprofits, Shawn has served in most roles of non-profits from Board Member all the way to President/CEO.

Shawn was named a “Hometown Hero” in 2020 and “Businessperson of the Year” in 2022. Under Shawn’s leadership two different local Chambers have received Five Star Accreditation, the highest rating from the U.S. Chamber. Shawn also formerly served as the first executive director of the award-winning Aledo ISD Education Foundation, which has raised over \$3.5 million dollars since its founding in 2013.

Shawn is actively involved in pro-education legislation and activism. After earning his degree from Texas Tech, he achieved certifications in adolescent education from Southern Methodist University and Princeton University.



**Suzi Pagel, CFRE (Certified Fund Raising Executive)**, has consulted with Foundation Innovation since 2011 and is currently serving as Lead Strategist. She served as Midway ISD’s Director of Development from 2002 - 2022. During this time, the Foundation provided over \$1.75 million for more than 650 classroom grants for the students and staff of Midway ISD and has an endowment of \$2 million dollars. The Education Foundation has funded other programs beyond the scope of the typical school budget such as academic letter jackets and funds for first year teachers to supply their classrooms.

Suzi holds a B.S.Ed. from Baylor University. In addition to teaching in Texas and California, she served as the volunteer coordinator for the City of Woodway and the program coordinator of Keep Knoxville Beautiful. She volunteers for the Junior League, Hewitt Chamber of Commerce, and the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

Suzi has received the Junior League’s Golden Wing Award for Outstanding Volunteerism and the Association of Fundraising Professional’s Outstanding Professional Fundraiser awards.



**Crystal Scanio, CFRE, CEFL** serves as the President and CEO of the Irving Schools Foundation, a nonprofit organization that supports the students and teachers in Irving ISD. In her role, she is tasked with raising money for Irving ISD to support projects and initiatives for which tax dollars cannot be expended, such as innovative classroom projects, scholarships, and funding for valuable learning tools.

Under her leadership for the last 11 years, the Irving Schools Foundation has raised over \$16 million dollars for Irving ISD students, and has received multiple awards for these efforts, including the highest award that an education foundation can receive: being named one of the Top 50 Education Foundations in the Nation for two consecutive years.

In 2012, Crystal was named by Latino Leaders Magazine as one of their “Top 25 Young Latino Leaders in DFW” because of her commitment to the betterment of the DFW community. In 2013, Crystal was awarded the Women of ALPFA (Association for Latino Professionals for America) Latina Achievement Award and in 2014, she was honored to have received the 2014 National Diversity Ambassador Award from Nissan Americas. Additionally, in 2022, Crystal received the “Hometown Hero” Award from Congresswoman Beth Van Duyne. Crystal is a graduate of Leadership Irving and Leadership North Texas.

# CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOS CONT.



**Janet Bubert** focuses her practice on representing the boards of numerous independent school districts, charter schools, universities, community colleges and education foundations. She advises clients on all aspects of education law and represents schools in both federal and state courts and before the Texas Commissioner of Education as well as other federal and state agencies. Janet has significant experience advising schools about programs for students with disabilities and authored a book chapter on disability programs.

Janet regularly provides training for boards, school administrators and staff, and she is a frequent speaker at state and national education conferences. She was named a Rising Star by Thomson Reuters from 2007-2012 in Schools and Education Law in Texas Monthly and was included in the List of Top Attorneys from 2011-2015 for Education and School Law in Fort Worth, Texas Magazine.

Following law school, Janet served as a briefing attorney for the Honorable James A. Baker and the Honorable Michael Schneider, Justices of the Supreme Court of Texas.