



**FONDA SUTTON
PARTNER, PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT
[EDFORWARD DC](#)**

Fonda is the Partner leading the Public Engagement team to provide funding and support for efforts that help to improve the match between the needs and interests of District families and the city's schools. She believes in the brilliance of the young people of this city – and the families and communities that they represent. As the product of strong public schools and great public school educators who held high standards for her, Fonda views her work as a funder at Education Forward DC as a powerful lever for getting students and families across this city the great schools that they deserve. Prior to joining Education Forward DC in 2017, Fonda served as the Chief Political Advisor for DC Public Schools (DCPS). At DCPS, she managed the school district's policy, legislative, and intergovernmental affairs. Fonda has blended over twenty years of legal and policy experience in non-profits, schools, consulting organizations, and government with her passion for serving children and families in underserved communities. Fonda has extensive experience managing projects and people within government agencies and private organizations. She helped to establish two public charter schools in DC and has served as a consultant to schools, authorizers, states, and urban city districts. Fonda is well-known for developing strong cross-sector partnerships that support high-quality education opportunities for children and families. Having earned a BS from Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service, a J.D. from its Law Center and an Executive Master's in Leadership from its McDonough School of Business, Fonda is a diehard Georgetown Hoyas fan. She grew up in Kinston, North Carolina, arguably the greatest producer of NBA talent in America, from which she has channeled her deep love of basketball to cheering for the Georgetown Hoyas. She has made her home for many years in DC's Manor Park neighborhood, where she lives with her rescue Mastiff-Pit Bull mix, Bruno.