The National Council for History Education Board of Directors is delighted to welcome Jessica Ellison as NCHE’s new Executive Director, concluding a national search. She will begin her appointment in December 2022.

“Jessica brings passion and commitment to history education as key features of her role as NCHE’s Executive Director,” according to Board Chair Jenny Nicholas. “Her experience and vision will guide NCHE in its continued efforts to assist history educators and collaborate effectively with other professional organizations in support of the teaching and learning of history.”

Ellison is a recognized leader in history education, with roles in public history, professional associations, and public service. For the last 18 years, Jessica was a teacher educator at the Minnesota Historical Society, where she delivered hundreds of hours of professional development to teachers across Minnesota and the country, and created curriculum materials to support social studies instruction in K-12 classrooms. She served as the President of the Minnesota Council for the Social Studies from 2015-2021, and she is currently on the board of the National Social Studies Supervisors Association. She is currently chair of her local school board, serving her second term of elected office. Jessica and her husband, Matt, live in the Twin Cities area with their four children.

Ellison expressed excitement about leading NCHE: “It will be such a privilege to serve as NCHE’s Executive Director. History is complex and messy and powerful and essential, and in this historical moment, I can’t wait to work with the staff to advocate for our educators and champion the teaching and learning of history, in all corners of the country.”

Jessica will assume the role of Executive Director on December 12, 2022. We look forward to NCHE’s continuing success and further growth under her leadership. For more information, please contact Jessica Ellison at jessica@nche.net.

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About National Council for History Education

Since 1990, NCHE has worked to promote excellence in K-12 and college-level history education. The organization supports the teaching, learning, and appreciation of diverse histories through advocacy, sponsoring workshops that connect teachers and professors, and by producing resources for classroom use. Learn more at www.ncheteach.org.