

Class of 2013

ACADEMIC PROCESSION	Brass Consortium Quintet
WELCOME	Victoria Chou Dean
NATIONAL ANTHEM	Terisa Griffin
GREETINGS AND REMARKS	Lon S. Kaufman Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost
INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER	Victoria Chou
COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER	Barbara Eason-Watkins The Fierce Urgency of Now
RECOGNITION OF FACULTY HONORS	Victoria Chou
PRESENTATION OF DOCTORAL DEAN'S MERIT AWARD	Victoria Chou
Doctoral Dean's Merit Award Recipient	Gholnecsar E. Muhammad
PRESENTATION OF PhD CANDIDATES (see list on page 21)	Victoria Chou
	Aixa Alfonso Associate Dean, Graduate College
PhD DEGREE CONFERRAL	Lon S. Kaufman
PRESENTATION OF EdD CANDIDATES (see list on page 22)	Victoria Chou
	Aixa Alfonso
EdD DEGREE CONFERRAL	Lon S. Kaufman
HOODING AND PRESENTATION OF DOCTORAL GRADUATES	Norma Lopez-Reyna College of Education Faculty

PRESENTATION OF MEd DEAN’S MERIT AWARD Victoria Chou

MEd Dean’s Merit Award Recipient Wendell Danton Floyd

PRESENTATION OF MEd CANDIDATES (see list on page 21) Victoria Chou

Aixa Alfonso

MEd DEGREE CONFERRAL Lon S. Kaufman

PRESENTATION OF MEd GRADUATES Ben Superfine
 Associate Professor, Educational Policy Studies

Joshua Radinsky
 Associate Professor, Curriculum and Instruction

PRESENTATION OF BA DEAN’S MERIT AWARD Victoria Chou

BA Dean’s Merit Award Recipient Anaese Vega

PRESENTATION OF BA CANDIDATES (see list on page 21) Victoria Chou

BA DEGREE CONFERRAL Lon S. Kaufman

PRESENTATION OF BA GRADUATES Eleni Katsarou
 Clinical Full Professor, Curriculum and Instruction

ALUMNI WELCOME Marelet Kirda
 College of Education Alumni Association

SONG, "IMAGINE" **Terisa Griffin**

CLOSING REMARKS **Victoria Chou**

RECESSIONAL **Brass Consortium Quintet**
Audience is requested to remain seated until the academic recession is completed.

PLATFORM PARTY **Lon S. Kaufman**
Aixa Alfonso
Victoria Chou
Wendell Danton Floyd
Barbara Eason-Watkins
Joyce Eisen
Eleni Katsarou
Marelet Kirda
Gholnecsar E. Muhammad
Joshua Radinsky
Norma Lopez-Reyna
Celina Sima
Ben Superfine
Anaese Vega

MARSHALS **Rose Becerra**
Eboni Caridine
Jennifer DeLago
Elizabeth Gates-Ehlers
Marietta Giovannelli
Ana Valenta
Elise Wilson

MUSICIANS **Terisa Griffin**
Soloist
Alfred Young
Alfreda Young
Latrisha Kazee
Charlie Johnson
Keyboard

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Barbara Eason-Watkins

Dr. Barbara Eason-Watkins was appointed superintendent of Michigan City Area Schools in Michigan City, Indiana, in 2010. In her short tenure there, she is already transforming the public perception of the city's schools through a renewed focus on the instructional core, an expansion of career and technical education, and the establishment of new program options for students of all ability levels. She has overseen the launch of elementary magnet schools in STEM and the arts, a multiage gifted and talented program, and three themed middle schools (in STEM, cultural arts, and environmental science) and has more than doubled dual-credit opportunities available to high school students.

Previously, she was chief education officer and the lead curriculum and instruction strategist for the third-largest school district in the nation, Chicago Public Schools (CPS). There, Dr. Eason-Watkins led efforts to reform policies and institute key initiatives to diminish the achievement gap. Under her leadership, the district received the largest literacy grant in the nation (\$24.5 million) from the U.S. Department of Education, increased the number of students taking advanced placement courses, and expanded learning opportunities for preschool through 12th grade, despite budget constraints.

Dr. Eason-Watkins has spent her 39-year professional career working with schools, students, teachers, parents, and community members to improve the quality of public education. She was a nationally recognized school principal in the Chicago Woodlawn community, beginning her career at CPS as the principal of Mollison Elementary School, where she served from 1985 to 1988. She also served as the principal of McCosh Elementary School (known today as Emmett Till Math & Science Elementary) from 1988 to 2001. Dr. Eason-Watkins's extensive experience in education also includes teaching in Highland Park, Michigan, near her hometown of Detroit.

Dr. Eason-Watkins received a bachelor's degree with honors in elementary education from the University of Michigan, a master's degree in educational administration and supervision from Chicago State University, and a doctorate in education with a specialty in curriculum and instruction from Loyola University Chicago. She has received numerous awards for her continued commitment to education, and she is also a member of several distinguished organizations.