

Alumni Spotlight Irene Schweiger (Class of 2006)

Since 2009, Irene Schweiger has been the Executive Director of Sandy Springs Education Force (SSEF) and involved with the school system for 25 years. SSEF has supported and inspired over 6000 public school students to graduate and pursue product lives beyond high school. Irene received the LSS "Alumni Recognition Award" in 2012, Sandy Springs Perimeter Chamber "Woman of Distinction Award" in 2013 and the "Community Volunteer of the Year Award" in 2017. She holds an MBA in industrial psychology and served in human resources management position in Fortune 500 companies.



1. How did you become involved with Leadership Sandy Springs? I knew Carolyn Axt through my work in various volunteer leadership positions at North Springs High School. She suggested I apply for the LSS class and I was accepted.

2. What was your biggest takeaway from your class experience? Prior to the class, I was primarily involved in education. The class experience provided me with insight in other aspects of the city, which gave me perspective on how education fits into the big picture. Learning about these other areas gave me perspective of how education fits into the big picture. Sandy Springs became a city during my class year and was an exciting time for all of us to see the power of a community working together.

3. What advice would you give new class members? Attend all the the class days as it's important to see all aspects of the city to put it into perspective. Learn from other class members who represent different areas and demographics of the city. Form wonderful friendships which will have lasting impact on your work in the community. Learn about nonprofit organizations, think about how you can engage and use your leadership skills in the community.

4. What advice would you give LSS alumni? Stay connected to Leadership Sandy Springs. There are many opportunities and events which will enable you to meet members of other LSS classes. It is a great opportunity to form collaborative partnerships.

See Irene Schweiger's interview at the Sandy Springs Chamber of Commerce's [BizConnect](#) [here](#).