

GLR Learning Tuesdays Webinar
***Leaning into Community-wide Learning:
What It Takes and Where It's Happening!***

May 2, 2023

Moderator, Presenter and Commentator Bios

MODERATOR

Bonnie Howard

Senior Fellow, Campaign for Grade-Level Reading



Bonnie launched her professional career as a Speech and Language Pathologist in the Boston Public Schools, but transitioned from education to the field of high-tech during the early 1980s. She spent ten years in marketing positions with IBM before moving on to the Houghton Mifflin Company, formulating business plans, national marketing strategies, and negotiating software contracts as a Senior Account Manager. But with a passion for improving the lives of children and youth, Bonnie followed a path back to education. Bridging education and business, she worked with Brockton, Massachusetts Public Schools, charged with developing and implementing a school-to-career strategy for the school system and as Program Director at Jobs for the Future she worked closely with urban communities to bring school-to-career practices to scale. In 2002 she joined the Annie E. Casey Foundation working with the Family Economic Success unit. Over a 19-year tenure, she managed the Foundation's National Policy and Civic Partner portfolios and served as the Director Equity and Inclusion. Under her leadership, grantees became active consumers of Casey's race, equity and inclusion expertise, tools and resources. Bonnie holds a Bachelor of Science in Speech Pathology/Audiology from Howard University, and earned her Master of Education in Policy, Planning, and Administration from Boston University.

PRESENTERS

Jenny Bogoni

Executive Director, Read By 4th, Philadelphia, PA



Jenny Bogoni is the Executive Director of Read by 4th, a citywide effort of 50 organizations, public and private, large and small, convened and managed by the Free Library of Philadelphia, aiming to majorly increase the number of students in Philadelphia entering the 4th grade at reading level. Jenny is also the Principal Consultant with Bogoni Strategy Partners. Previously, she was the Executive Director at Spark, a national non-profit that provides life-changing apprenticeships to youth from disadvantaged communities as a means to reduce the dropout crisis as well as the Vice President of the Philadelphia Youth Network where she facilitated the development and implementation of a multi-faceted work plan that charted a response to the local dropout crisis resulting

in a 12 percent gain in the graduation rate. Jenny served as an Education Volunteer in Gabon (Central Africa) in the Peace Corps and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Haverford College.

Beth Duda

Director, Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading, The Patterson Foundation



Since May of 2015, Beth Duda has been one of the driving forces of the Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading (SCGLR). SCGLR is a Florida four-county effort in Charlotte, DeSoto, Manatee, and Sarasota counties to help children from birth through 3rd grade, especially those from asset-limited families, succeed in life by ensuring they read on grade level. As the director of SCGLR, Beth works closely with local lead partners— Community Foundation of Sarasota County, United Way Suncoast, and United Way of Charlotte County—to drive progress in the region. To embed lasting change, the future-focused partners strive to collaborate with every sector: people, business, nonprofits, government, and the media. Multiple Pacesetter Honors from the national Campaign for Grade-Level Reading (annually since 2014) affirm the success of SCGLR’s collaborative effort and its work. Pacesetter Honors highlight communities that make measurable progress on key indicators of early school success, including early literacy and school readiness, chronic absenteeism and its effects on reading progress, and mitigating summer learning loss by connecting children with quality educational opportunities and programs. Beth is a proud member of Leadership Florida’s Education Class IV, a statewide community of leaders working for a better Florida. She has written, co-written, and created several one-act plays performed for thousands of school-aged children. Recently, she used her playwriting skills to write Abraham Lincoln & Frederick Douglass, A Walk to Respect, which The Patterson Foundation produced in partnership with Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe as part of TPF’s 10th-anniversary celebration, Honoring & Onward. An award-winning playwright and educator, Beth spent more than twenty years working with students and educators in elementary schools as part of the Education Department of Florida Studio Theatre. These experiences fueled her commitment to deepening community connections to improve reading proficiency in our region and beyond. In her twenty-plus years of arts education, Beth’s sensitive and visionary education and learning approach continues to inspire students, parents, and educators. Beth was raised in Central New York and received her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from SUNY-Oswego.

Tanya Durand

Executive Director, Greentrike (formerly Children's Museum of Tacoma)



Tanya Durand has worked in the museum field since 1992 and has led the Children’s Museum of Tacoma since 1999 as its Executive Director. Greentrike, as it is now known, is a nonprofit organization modeling programming, convening community, and advocating for the rights of children to be educated and cared for using playful approaches and with adults who are deeply interested in those in their care. Greentrike operates the Children’s Museum of Tacoma, The Children’s Museum at Joint

Base Lewis-McCord - the first and only Children’s Museum installation on a military base— Preschool Powered by Play on two campuses, and Play to Learn, Pierce County’s largest school readiness outreach program.

Siobhan O’Loughlin Reardon

Auerbach-Berger Senior Fellow, Campaign for Grade Level Reading’s Everyday Places and Spaces Initiative



Siobhan O’Loughlin Reardon is the Auerbach- Berger Senior Fellow for the Campaign for Grade Level Reading’s Everyday Places and Spaces Initiative. She is the former President and Director of the Free Library of Philadelphia, the 13th largest library system in the United States where she was the first woman to serve as the Free Library of Philadelphia’s President and Director in the organization’s 115-year history. The Library’s Building Inspiration Campaign: 21st Century

Libraries Initiative, provided for a multi-million-dollar public/private partnership to improve upon and enhance physical and programmatic changes necessary to present a viable 21st Century library organization. The Campaign led to the development of several new “centers” which helped focus the work of staff in the areas of literacy development, health, civic discourse, and cultural enrichment as well as support for the entrepreneurial and small business communities. Ms. Reardon also oversaw the merger between the renowned Rosenbach Museum & Library and the Free Library, combining two of the finest collections of rare materials into one of world- class standing. Siobhan was named Library Journal’s Librarian of the Year in 2015. She also served as Executive Director of the Westchester (NY) Library System, Deputy Executive Director of the Brooklyn (NY) Public Library, and Budget Director of the New York Public Library. She holds a B.A. Political Science from Purchase College (NY), an M.A. from Fordham University in International Political Economy and Development, and an M.S. in Library Science from the Palmer School of Library Science at Long Island University.

COMMENTATORS

Gregg Behr

Founder and Co-Chair, Remake Learning Executive Director, Grable Foundation



Gregg Behr, executive director of The Grable Foundation since 2006, is a father and children’s advocate. For more than 15 years, he has helped lead Remake Learning—a learning ecosystem involving thousands of educators, scientists, artists, and makers he founded in Pittsburgh—to international renown. Remake Learning has turned heads everywhere from Forbes to the World Economic Forum for its efforts to ignite children’s curiosity, encourage creativity, and foster justice and belonging in schools, libraries, museums, and more. A graduate of the University of Notre Dame and Duke University, Gregg holds honorary degrees from Carlow University and Saint Vincent College. He’s an advisor to The Brookings Institution and the Fred Rogers Institute, and he has been cited by President Obama and the Disruptor Foundation as an innovator and thought leader. He is the co-author of *When You Wonder, You’re Learning: Mister Rogers’ Enduring Lessons for Raising Creative, Curious, Caring Kids*.

Amanda Charles

Interim Program Officer, Senior Program Associate, William Penn Foundation



Amanda is a program associate in Great Learning, with a grantmaking portfolio focused on building literacy rich environments for our youngest learners – opportunities for children to build literacy skills outside of schools and early childhood education centers. Previously, Amanda worked as a child care specialist with the Arlington County Government in Virginia, balancing caseload management of child care facilities while working collaboratively to improve program quality. Amanda holds a master’s degree in education from the University of Pennsylvania and a bachelor’s degree in education from Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, where she majored in elementary and special education.

Holly Bamford Hunt

Executive Director, The Bramford Foundation



Following experiences classroom teaching, educational research and parent-child education, Holly currently directs the Bamford Foundation, a greater Tacoma and Pierce County- focused family foundation established in 1990 by her parents Cal and Joanne Bamford. The foundation’s broad mission to “improve the quality of life of individuals and strengthen communities” is implemented through grantmaking in a range of areas related to lifelong education, including early childhood and parent support, access to expanded learning opportunities for youth P-12 and their families, and access to postsecondary pathways and career training for individuals. She currently serves as Past Board Chair on the Greentrike Board of Directors. She and her family live and work in Tacoma and love being part of this collaborative community.