

GLR Learning Tuesdays Webinar
EdTech: How School Leaders are Leveraging Technology
to Accelerate Student Learning

February 9, 2021

Moderator and Co-Presenter Bios

MODERATOR

Griselda Young-Ojeda
Professional Learning Consultant, Imagine Learning



Griselda Young-Ojeda's background is in Bilingual Education & Interdisciplinary Studies. For over a decade she's had the privilege of being an elementary school bilingual educator. Griselda was honored as Bilingual Teacher of the Year and became a District-Level Specialist for the Second Language Education Department in Alief ISD in Houston, TX. She now serves as an Educational Consultant with multiple EdTech companies, including *Edmentum* and *Imagine Learning*. Her mission is to facilitate professional learning communities, maximize student impact and learning success, all through the use of technology.

CO-PRESENTERS

Darin Brawley, Ed.D.
Superintendent, Compton Unified School District, CA



Darin Brawley earned his doctorate in Educational Leadership at the University of Southern California. He has a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership from California State University, San Bernardino, and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Redlands. He is currently in his eighth year as superintendent for Compton Unified School District. Under his leadership, CUSD has benefitted from a tremendous Turnaround. His leadership is focused on eliminating opportunity gaps for students and has resulted in Compton Unified becoming a premier STEAM District providing students unique experiences in robotics, coding, computational thinking and project based learning and graduation rates continue to rise. His commitment to the community is evident in the enhancements that have been completed within the district with upgrades to facilities and athletic fields.

Antonio Burt, Ed.D.
Chief Academic Officer, Shelby County Schools, TN



Dr. Antonio Burt is an education reformer devoted to closing the academic achievement gap for all children. Dr. Burt currently serves as the Chief Academic Officer for Shelby County Schools. In this role, he is responsible for the academic vision, programs, and implementation of strategies for a district that serves over 100,000 students. Throughout his career, Dr. Burt has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to removing educational barriers for all children. Dr. Burt earned national acclaim during his time as a school leader, which resulted in two Memphis schools becoming examples of what excellence looks like in public schools. A native of Alabama, Dr. Burt enjoys traveling, exercising, reading, golfing, and attending athletic events.

Michael Lombardo
Chief Executive Officer and Founder, BookNook



Michael Lombardo is the Founder & CEO of BookNook, an award-winning social enterprise that uses artificial intelligence and other adaptive technologies to support reading skill growth at school, at home, and in the community. Previously, he served as CEO of Reading Partners, building it into one of the largest children’s literacy nonprofits in America and publishing seminal research on volunteer-based reading programs. A frequent author on education policy, social entrepreneurship, and nonprofit governance, Michael also serves as a Social Entrepreneur in Residence at Stanford University and is a founding Advisory Council member of My Brother’s Keeper Alliance, President Obama’s signature initiative supporting boys and young men of color.

Barbara Nemko, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools, Napa County Office of Education, CA



Dr. Barbara Nemko, Napa County Superintendent of Schools, was the first superintendent to scale digital resources countywide to close the achievement gap for early learners. Through her Digital Early Literacy Initiative, she provides literacy resources in English and Spanish for all PreK through 3rd grade students and their families. During school closures due to COVID-19, Dr. Nemko was able to seamlessly transition to virtual learning which prevented learning loss for her students. She has earned numerous awards and grants including being named one of the Top 40 Innovators in Education by the Center for Digital Education.

Ilene Rosenthal
CEO & Founder, Footsteps2Brilliance



Ilene Rosenthal is the CEO and Founder of Footsteps2Brilliance, a breakthrough educational software company that accelerates student achievement by uniting the power of mobile gaming with the latest in cognitive research. Footsteps2Brilliance has won numerous awards, including SIIA Codie Finalist for “Best K-12 Instructional Solution”, AEP prize for “Best ESL/ELL Solution”, and Gold Winner for the National Parenting Publications Awards. It has been recognized by the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics, and the Clinton Global Initiative, and has been honored by the United Nations for its work helping children in developing

countries become literate.

Jessie Woolley-Wilson
President and CEO, DreamBox



Jessie Woolley-Wilson is President and CEO of DreamBox Learning®. Prior to joining DreamBox, she held executive positions at leading EdTech companies, including Blackboard, LeapFrog, and Kaplan. She has been a featured speaker at TEDx Rainier, SXSWedu, and the ASU GSV Summit, and Ernst & Young named her “Entrepreneur Of The Year®” in the Pacific Northwest region. She supports the broader education community by serving on several boards, including Rosetta Stone and the Western Governors

University Board of Trustees. She holds an MBA from Harvard Business School and a BA from the University of Virginia.