

GLR Learning Tuesdays Webinar

Promising High Tech/High Touch Solutions for Back to School

September 29, 2020

Moderator & Presenter Bios

MODERATOR

Lisa Roy

Director of Program Development, Buffet Early Childhood Institute



Lisa Roy joined the Buffett Institute in 2019. She came to the Institute from Denver Public Schools, where she served as executive director of the Early Childhood Department. Previously, Roy has done consultant work for Grantmakers for Education as the organization's equity impact group lead and served as the executive director of the Timothy and Bernadette Marquez Foundation, focusing on improving educational opportunities and increasing access and options in health care and human services for underserved or under-represented populations. She holds a doctorate in executive leadership for

educational equity and a master's degree in counseling psychology and counselor education from the University of Colorado at Denver.

CO-PRESENTERS

Dr. Christopher Blair

Superintendent, Bullock County School System, Alabama



Dr. Blair serves as the Superintendent of Education for the Bullock County School System. Previously, Dr. Blair served as Network Deputy Chief for Chicago Public Schools (CPS) where he led school improvement and instructional leadership initiatives. Prior to working for CPS, Dr. Blair was the Chief Academic Officer for Montgomery Public Schools where he led the transformation of instructional services and central office support. In addition, he has served as an English teacher, math teacher, elementary and middle school

principal, post-secondary dean of education, and as a program administrator for the Alabama State Department of Education. Dr. Blair believes and proves that putting students first always works in the best interests of students and adults.

Dr. Vivian Ekchian

Superintendent, Glendale Unified School District, California



A firm believer in empowering students to lead us next and the unparalleled power of education to transform lives, Dr. Vivian Ekchian, Superintendent of Glendale Unified School Districts, remains committed to providing a world-class, globally competitive education to all students in order to ensure they are college, career, and life ready. Dr. Ekchian has been recognized for her keen ability to accelerate student outcomes by generating innovative solutions, closing opportunity gaps, addressing challenges head-on, and elevating student voice. Prior to GUSD, she was

the Deputy Superintendent for LAUSD, the nation's second largest school district, where she worked for 34 years.

TJ Parks

Superintendent, Hobbs Municipal Schools, New Mexico

A Native New Mexican, born and raised in Tucumcari, New Mexico, TJ received his AA from New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell, NM and then attended The Citadel 1978-80. He received his



Bachelors and Masters degrees at Eastern New Mexico University, Portales New Mexico. Mr. Parks taught middle school Science, coached football, basketball and track. He has served as an Assistant Middle School Principal in Dimmitt Texas, Superintendent in Tatum, NM, Assistant Superintendent of Operations in Hobbs, NM and has been the Superintendent at Hobbs Municipal schools since 2010. TJ Parks was NM Superintendent of the year in 2016 and currently serves as President of New Mexico Activities Association.