



Showing Up Matters for R.E.A.L.: Routines, Engagement, Access to resources & Learning

A GLR Learning Tuesdays
Learning Loss Recovery Challenge Webinar
Co-Sponsored by Attendance Works

May, 10 2022 | 3-4:30 pm ET/12-1:30 pm PT

Panelist Bios

MODERATOR



Hedy Chang
Executive Director
Attendance Works
@attendancesworks

Hedy Chang is the executive director of Attendance Works. A Campaign for Grade-Level Reading implementation partner, Attendance Works is a national and state level initiative aimed at advancing student attendance and closing equity gaps by addressing chronic absence.

A skilled presenter, facilitator, researcher and writer, she co-authored the seminal report, *Present, Engaged and Accounted For: The Critical Importance of Addressing Chronic Absence in the Early Grades*, as well as numerous other articles about student attendance. Deeply committed to promoting two-generation solutions to achieving a more just and equitable society, Chang has spent more than two decades working in the fields of family support, family economic success, education and child development. She served as a senior program officer at the Evelyn and Walter Haas Jr. Fund and as co-director of California Tomorrow, a nonprofit committed to drawing strength from cultural, linguistic and racial diversity. In February 2013, Hedy was named by the White House as a Champion of Change for her commitment to furthering African American Education.

PRESENTERS



Pam Allyn
CEO
Dewey
@pamallyn

Pam Allyn is an entrepreneur and the author of many books, including *Every Child a Super Reader*, co-authored by Dr. Ernest Morrell; *Your Child's Writing Life* (winner of the Mom's Choice Award); and *What to Read When*. She is a renowned public speaker, and the creator of programs that achieve exceptional results in academics and wellbeing, pre-k through grade 12. Her signature programs include LitCamp, LitLeague, and ReadyGen. Pam

is the founder, with her team at LitWorld, of World Read Aloud Day, celebrated in more than 60 countries each year. She was selected for the Laura Bush Fellowship for Women Leaders and Mentors and the Kellogg Foundation Fellowship for Racial Equity and Healing. Pam has received honors for her work, including the James Patterson Page Turner Award, the Children’s Village Legacy of Service Award, Scholastic’s Reading Champion Award, the Kent Williamson NCTE Award, and the Columbia University Teachers College Distinguished Alumni Award. She is CEO and Founder of Dewey, a transformative, wraparound education services solution.



Patricia E. Chavez

V.P. of External Relations

Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE)

@PIQEUSA

As V.P. of External Relations, Patricia (Patty) Chavez leads national initiatives that build and execute brand, strengthen marketing and communications, foster strategic partnerships, and expand relationships with policy makers, education leaders, partners and stakeholders. Patty leads a department comprised of advocacy and influence, communications and fund development to achieve PIQE’s strategic plan objectives and continue building upon PIQE’s mission of social justice and educational equity.

Chavez has more than 25 years of experience in public, private, and nonprofit sectors developing and implementing cause marketing and advocacy campaigns to build support on community issues. As a former Councilmember, Chavez has a unique combination of legislative and community experience and cultural competency that drives her work with diverse populations to strengthen the voice of underrepresented communities. Prior to joining PIQE, Chavez served as Communications and External Affairs Director for a San Diego County nonprofit spearheading organizational advancement efforts including external affairs, development, fundraising, communications, and partnerships. Previously, Chavez led a communications firm dedicated to community engagement and capacity building. Among the various initiatives, Chavez led coordination efforts for the San Diego County of Education to increase civic and community support for quality early education and transitional kindergarten programs.

Chavez resides in Chula Vista with her husband. Together, they raised three children. Chavez is first-generation and first-in-family to earn advanced degrees. She is a graduate of Hispanas Organized for Political Equity (HOPE) Leadership Institute. She earned a bachelor’s degree in journalism with an emphasis in public relations and a minor in speech communications from San Diego State University and a master’s degree in communication management from the University of Southern California.



Maria Harris

Principal

Educare Los Angeles at Long Beach Unified School District

Maria Harris is the School Principal for Educare Los Angeles at Long Beach, which is an early childhood education school that leverages federal, state and private dollars to offer high quality early childhood education to prevent the achievement gap. Educare ensures that children are prepared academically, socially and emotionally for kindergarten.

The first of its kind in Southern California, the Educare School is located on the campus of Barton Elementary School, near the Carmelitos Housing Project neighborhood of Long Beach. Educare Long Beach is one of 25 early education programs nationwide, the school is the result of a public/private partnership, including funding from private foundations, Head Start and State Preschool.

Maria has been a school administrator for over 14 years and has been in education for over 20 years in the Long Beach Unified School District. Maria started her accomplished career in the classroom teaching primary and intermediate grades; learning firsthand the impact that a strong education along with collaboration and goal oriented family partnerships has on children.

At Educare, Maria leads staff in delivering daily education services and practices that demonstrate the belief that everyone deserves a fair chance to achieve their dreams, and it starts by leveling the playing field from the day we are born. This is done by offering daily intensive family engagement along with high quality teaching and learning practices.

The Educare School serves up to 192 infants, toddlers and preschoolers in 16 classrooms in three one-story modular buildings. A two-story administration building, 19-space drop-off area and a unique developmentally appropriate playground is in place for Long Beach families and children. Maria continues to lead the approach that extends beyond the classroom to help children, families, and communities thrive.



Cherri Rowe

Chief Program Officer

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Dallas

Cherri Rowe, Chief Program Officer for Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Dallas, has 18 years of experience in youth development. Discovering she had a passion for youth and a gift of working with them, Cherri worked her way up through the ranks from part-time front counter attendant to her current position and is now currently overseeing 28 Club locations in Dallas and Navarro Counties. Cherri is excited about working within the communities BGCD serves. She recognizes the benefits of the organization's programming and wants to introduce Dallas area youth to the rewards of being involved in programs that develop them to be responsible and productive.

Cherri, a Dallas native, received her B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies with a focus in Communications from the University of Texas at Dallas and her master's in public administration from the University of Texas- Rio Grande Valley. She is currently pursuing her doctorate in Strategic Leadership at Liberty University. Cherri holds certifications in youth program quality and coaching; and has served on several youth services committees.



Erin M. Simon, Ed.D.

Assistant Superintendent of School Support Services
Long Beach Unified School District
ACSA President Elect
@dispelthemyth | @LBUSDALLIN | @LBUSDFRC

Dr. Erin M. Simon leads major reform efforts in school districts. In her current role as the assistant superintendent of school support services for the Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD), Dr. Simon oversees more than 300 staff members and manages a \$65,000,000 million budget.

Dr. Simon leads the direction of the special education and student support divisions, High School Wellness Centers and the Family Resource Centers, which provide social, emotional and behavioral health-related support to students within a cluster of schools in LBUSD. She also provides guidance to the District's 85 schools, with over 69,000 students, on specialized services that covers compliance and policy to name a few.

Dr. Simon has been recognized and praised for increasing student achievement and school attendance, closing the opportunity gaps between identifiable and pronounced groups of students, and advocating for equitable, robust, high-quality educational programs, social-emotional interventions, and resources to ensure students can reach their fullest potential. She has received numerous awards for her contributions to policy and practice.