



Innovation in In-School Tutoring:
Updates From Research and On-the-Ground Efforts

A GLR Learning Tuesdays Webinar
Learning Loss Recovery Challenge
Co-Sponsored by Overdeck Family Foundation

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

Panelist Bios

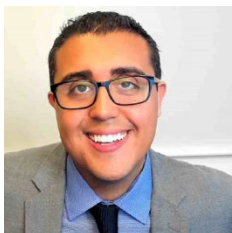
MODERATOR



Melanie Dukes
Senior Program Officer
Overdeck Family Foundation

Melanie Dukes serves as Senior Program Officer for the Innovative Schools portfolio, which aims to expand access to tech-enabled, student-centered K-9 learning environments. Previously, Melanie worked at 2U, Inc. as a Director in the technology department to support online learning for universities. Prior to that, Melanie worked at Relay GSE, KIPP NYC, MLT (Management Leadership for Tomorrow), Morgan Stanley, and General Mills. She is a board member for two Brooklyn Charter Schools – PAVE and Launch Expeditionary Learning.

PRESENTERS



AJ Gutierrez
Co-Founder, Vice Chair, Chief of Marketing & Communications
Saga Education
@AGutierrezSAGA | @SagaEducation

AJ Gutierrez graduated from Union College with a full educational scholarship through the Posse Foundation and received his MBA from Boston University Questrom School of Business. He co-founded Saga Education in 2014, a nonprofit organization that specializes in scalable personalized learning solutions. Saga seeks to establish high-dosage, in-school-day tutoring as an integrated part of K-12 education and is on the forefront of developing human-powered and technology-supported systems that make it possible for school districts to implement Saga's model with fidelity. Saga is a level 1 ESSA-rated evidence-based organization and is recognized among the top five most innovative companies in education, worldwide, by Fast Company (2020).



Janice Jackson, Ed.D.
Senior Advisor
America Achieves
@janicejackson

Dr. Janice Jackson is a lifelong resident of Chicago. With over 22 years of experience working in Chicago Public Schools (CPS), she is a nationally-known and respected educator and leader in the field of public education. Her life's work and commitment to public education and student outcomes began at a young age. After graduating from CPS and receiving her B.A. and M.A. from Chicago State University, she began her teaching career as a social studies teacher and debate team coach at South Shore High School. From there she went on to serve as a high school principal, District Network Chief, and Chief Education Officer all while completing an M.A. and Ed.D. from the University of Illinois at Chicago. In 2017, she was appointed CEO of CPS by Mayor Rahm Emmanuel. She was the first CPS alumna to serve in the position.

Jackson's tenure at CPS—the nation's third largest school district with more than 355,000 students, 38,000 employees, and an annual budget of \$7 billion—is most notable for the results the district attained in advancing equitable outcomes for its students. In fact, Bill Gates noted the data-driven approach to student success developed under Jackson's leadership was “a model for the nation.” Jackson's efforts, along with those of Chicago's dedicated teachers and principals, propelled CPS students to record-breaking improvements in academic achievement, high school graduation, and post-secondary completion. Education experts across the country regard Chicago as a national leader in improving results for young people at scale.

Upon leaving CPS after 22 years, Jackson joined the Carnegie Foundation as a Senior Fellow where she is focusing on equity issues, such as improving high school and college attainment nationwide and ensuring that African American, Latinx, and Indigenous students receive exemplary education and social and emotional support. She was also selected as a 2021 Resident Fellow for the Institute of Politics at the University of Chicago.

In September 2021, Jackson became CEO of Hope Chicago, a new two-generation scholarship organization that will eliminate barriers to educational and economic equity by guaranteeing debt-free college and wraparound support services to Hope Scholars and their parents. Jackson brings dynamic leadership, deep knowledge of student need and circumstance, and a personal passion for transforming lives through education to this work. She is also a board member of the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL), the Chicago Children's Advocacy Center (CCAC) and A Better Chicago (ABC). Dr. Jackson is married with two children and resides on the southside of Chicago, in the Bronzeville community.



[Chanda Johnson](#)

Partner Success Director
Zearn Math

@ChandaSJohnson | @zearn

Chanda Johnson is a Partner Success Director at Zearn. Chanda is committed to ensuring that all children have the opportunity to succeed and to love mathematics. Prior to joining Zearn, Chanda served in various roles at the Louisiana Department of Education, most recently as the Deputy Assistant Superintendent of Academic Content.

Chanda began her career as a secondary mathematics and English teacher in Louisiana. After over a decade in the classroom, Chanda went on to the Louisiana Department of Education where she served as a network coach, a math specialist, a project lead for assessment projects including Louisiana's innovative assessment pilot, a chief of staff, and the lead of the Academic Content team. As Louisiana's academic lead, Chanda led Louisiana's instructional materials review process and ensured that the majority of students in Louisiana were using high quality instructional materials each day. Chanda has also served as a senior specialist at EdReports where she continued to focus on ensuring that all students have access to high quality instructional materials.

Chanda holds a bachelor's degree in Secondary Education and a master's degree in Curriculum from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Chanda currently lives outside of Baton Rouge with her husband and two sons.



[Susanna Loeb, Ph.D.](#)

Director, Annenberg Institute for School Reform
Brown University

@loeb_susanna @NSSAccelerator

Susanna Loeb is Director of the Annenberg Institute at Brown University, where she is also Professor of Education and of International and Public Affairs and the founder and acting executive director of the National Student Support Accelerator, which aims to expand access to relationship-based, high-impact tutoring in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Susanna's research focuses broadly on education policy and its role in improving educational opportunities for students. Her work has addressed issues of educator career choices and professional development, of school finance and governance, and of early childhood systems. Before moving to Brown, Susanna was the Barnett Family Professor of Education at Stanford. She was the founding director of the Center for Education Policy at Stanford and co-director of Policy Analysis for California Education. Susanna led the research for both Getting Down to Facts projects for California schools. In 2020, she was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. She is also an affiliate at NBER and JPAL and a member of the National Academy of Education.



Jessica Reid Sliwerski
Founder, Ignite! Reading
CEO, Open Up Resources
@ignite_reading | @openupresources

Jessica Reid Sliwerski is CEO of Open Up Resources, a nonprofit whose mission is opening doors to education equity by making high-quality curriculum openly accessible to educators. Jessica is also the Founder of Ignite! Reading, a nonprofit whose mission is to ensure that every student is an independent reader by the start of second grade through high-dosage 1:1 reading tutoring via Zoom. Previously, Jessica was the co-founder and Chief Academic Officer at the adaptive literacy software company LightSail Education. Her instructionally-focused product vision brought numerous awards to the organization, including the Digital Promise and Edsurge Digital Innovation in Learning Award, two ASU-GSV Return on Education VentureEd awards, and a Readers' Choice Top 100 recognition from District Administration magazine.

Jessica began her career as a Teach For America teacher in the Bronx, NY before becoming a founding teacher then an Assistant Principal at Success Academy Charter Schools. Wanting to bring instructional best practices from the charter world to district schools, she became a network Literacy Specialist at The Urban Assembly, a New York City-based nonprofit organization overseeing more than 10,000 students in secondary schools.

Jessica's work in K–12 education was profiled in *The Wall Street Journal* and Steven Brill's book *Class Warfare: Inside the Fight to Fix America's Schools*, and she participated in the documentary film *The Lottery*. She has a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from UCLA and a Master's in Education from Pace University.