

GLR Learning Tuesdays Webinar

First 10 School-Community Partnerships in Action

A Peer Exchange Learning Conversation

September 27, 2022

Presenter Bios

David Jacobson, Ph.D., Moderator
Principal Technical Advisor
Education Development Center



David Jacobson designed and leads EDC's First 10 initiative, which supports a national network of school-early childhood-community partnerships. These partnerships work to improve outcomes for children ages birth through 10 and their families. Jacobson brings deep experience in early childhood education, school improvement, applied research, strategic planning, and addressing inequality to his work leading First 10.

Jacobson is the author of a 2019 report funded by the Heising-Simons Foundation, *All Children Learn and Thrive: Building First 10 Schools and Communities*, which presents findings on coordinated efforts to improve teaching, learning, and care during the first decade of children's lives. Nationwide, he provides consultation and serves as an adviser on the First 10 model.

A widely published author, Jacobson has advanced the knowledge of community-school partnerships, bipartisan education priorities, building state P–3 systems, and professional learning communities.

Jacobson holds a BA in History and an MA in Philosophy from Brown University and a PhD in Sociology from the University of Chicago.

Andrea Berry, Ed.D.
Superintendent
School District of the City of York, Pennsylvania



Dr. Andrea J. Berry began her work as Assistant Superintendent for the School District of the City of York on July 6, 2017. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Cheyney University of Pennsylvania, a Master of Science degree from Western Maryland College, and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Argosy University.

She came to the School District of the City of York from the Eastern Shore of Maryland, where she served as an elementary school teacher, assistant principal, principal, and district level supervisor. She has an extensive background in equity and diversity as well as English Learners programs.

Dr. Berry believes academic achievement is a direct correlation to educator expectations. If students are taught how to “think about their thinking” (metacognition), then they can rise to any and every challenge presented to them. She is rooted in the premise that children can and will learn when given the opportunity to soar and demonstrate excellence. Furthermore, she is committed to setting up learning environments that allow for equitable practices for diverse learners.

She is active in the community and has membership in a variety of organizations. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and continues to serve on the Citizens Advisory Board. She has taught a variety of college-level courses at several universities and will join the faculty at Wilson College in the spring of 2018.

Dr. Berry’s philosophies are grounded in the research conducted by Wiggins and McTighe (2005) that denotes instructional initiatives should “Begin With The End In Mind.” She also has strong beliefs in establishing a culture and community of leaders with a “Growth Mindset” as presented by Dweck (2008). Her hope is to help the York learning community provide its students with a premier education.

Barbara Cooper, Ph.D.
Secretary
Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education



Dr. Barbara Cooper was appointed as secretary of the Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education by Governor Kay Ivey on July 1, 2020.

Cooper has over 30 years of education experience and most recently served in DECE since 2018. She previously served as the department’s director of the Office of School Readiness and the Birth to Grade 12 advisor for the Alabama Governor’s Office of Education and Workforce Transformation. She was appointed by the Alabama State Board of Education to serve as the chief administrative officer during the Montgomery Public Schools intervention where she worked to improve leadership and governance.

Cooper is currently in the process of earning a Certificate in Early Education Leadership from Harvard University Graduate School of Education. She also received a Ph.D. in Education Leadership and Innovation and a Master of Science in Administration, Supervision and Curriculum Development from the University of Colorado at Denver and a Bachelor of Science in Education from Western Illinois University.

Cooper’s administrative experience is vast as she has served as deputy state superintendent/chief academic officer of the Alabama State Department of Education, deputy superintendent of Huntsville City Schools, chief equity and engagement officer of Aurora Public Schools (Colorado) and a principal with Denver Public Schools. She has teaching experience ranging from elementary to teacher instruction.

Alyssa Gleason
Director, East Providence Health Equity Zone
East Bay Community Action Program, Rhode Island



Alyssa Gleason is the Director for the East Providence Health Equity Zone (HEZ). Prior to joining HEZ, Gleason was the Senior Planning and Program Development Specialist for the Governor’s Commission on Disabilities. In this role, she managed the Rhode Island Livable Homes Modification Program and directed outreach and communication efforts for the Commission. Gleason earned her B.A. in Political Science from the University of Rhode Island and a M.Sc. in Public Health from Indiana

State University.

As the Project Director for the East Providence HEZ, Gleason will collaborate with residents, city officials, and other community stakeholders to implement a data-driven plan of action to address the unique social, economic, and environmental factors impacting the health and wellness of East Providence residents.

Karen Rebello
Prekindergarten Principal
East Providence Public Schools, Rhode Island



Karen Rebello is the prekindergarten principal at East Providence Public Schools in Rhode Island. She is an experienced Consultant with a demonstrated history of working in the education management industry. She has experience in secondary education, early childhood education, classroom management, lesson planning, and learning disabilities. She holds a Master of Education (MEd) focused in Educational Leadership and Administration from Rhode Island College.