

GLR Learning Tuesdays | Learning Loss Recovery Challenge Series

**High-Dosage Tutoring:
State Strategies for Advancing Equitable Learning Recovery**

June 7, 2022 | 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm ET

PRESENTER BIOS

PRESENTERS

John-Paul Smith, MBA, MPP

Executive Director, North Carolina Education Corps



John-Paul is the Executive Director of North Carolina Education Corps, a nonprofit working to connect high-dosage literacy tutors to K-3 students in public schools across North Carolina. John-Paul earned his BA from Elon University, his MBA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and his MPP from Duke University. John-Paul resides in Raleigh, North Carolina with his wife, Lauren, and dog, Kalani.

Casey Sullivan Taylor

Policy Director of Early Literacy, ExcelinEd



Casey Sullivan Taylor is the Policy Director of Early Literacy for ExcelinEd. A former reading teacher, interventionist, and literacy coach, Casey most recently served as an Early Literacy Consultant at the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction where she worked to implement the Excellent Public Schools Act, North Carolina's comprehensive early literacy policy. Prior to this, she supported implementation of Mississippi's Literacy-

Based Promotion Act as an Assistant State Literacy Coordinator at the Mississippi Department of Education.

Casey earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from William Carey University, a Master of Arts in Intercultural Communication/Missiology from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and a Specialist in Education degree from William Carey University.

Allison Rose Socol Ph.D.

Vice President for P-12 Policy, Research, & Practice



Allison Rose Socol, Ph.D. serves as Ed Trust’s vice president of P-12 policy, practice, and research. In this role, Allison leads the P-12 team to highlight inequities, identify research-based solutions, and work with a wide range of equity advocates to push for change that will expand excellence and equity in the P-12 education system for students of color and students from low-income backgrounds.

Allison has been with The Education Trust since 2016. She previously served as Ed Trust’s assistant director of P-12 Policy, where she led the development of the organization’s policy agenda on issues essential to promoting equity in the P-12 system and coordinated data and policy analyses to execute the organization’s growing state-level advocacy efforts. She started her career at Ed Trust as a senior analyst, a role in which she developed and conducted data and policy analyses to highlight gaps in opportunity and achievement in our education system.

Before joining Ed Trust, Allison was a research assistant at the Center for Scaling Up Effective Schools, where she focused on identifying programs, practices, and policies that make high schools in large urban districts effective for low-income students and students of color. She also worked as a literacy coach for kindergarten and first grade teachers in rural public schools in North Carolina and taught fifth and sixth grade at Elsie Whitlow Stokes Community Freedom Public Charter School in Washington, D.C. She earned her teaching certification through the Inspired Teaching Certification Program.

Allison holds a Ph.D. in Education Policy from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, a master’s degree in teaching from Trinity University, and a bachelor’s degree in public policy from UNC.

MODERATOR

Barbara O’Brien Ph.D.

Senior Fellow, Campaign for Grade-Level Reading



Barbara O’Brien, Senior Fellow with the Campaign for Grade Level Reading, served as Lieutenant Governor of Colorado (2007-2011) and president of the Colorado Children’s Campaign from 1990-2006. Barbara recently completed eight years on the Denver School Board (2013-2021) where she led the development of the Early Literacy Plan and worked to expand funding for social and emotional supports for students.