

**GLR Learning Tuesday Webinars  
Advancing Digital Equity for Powerful Learning**

January 11, 2022  
Moderator and Presenter Bios

**MODERATOR**

**Jean-Claude Brizard  
President and CEO, Digital Promise**



Jean-Claude Brizard is President and CEO of Digital Promise, a global, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization focused on accelerating innovation in education. He is former Senior Advisor and Deputy Director at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation where he focused on PK-16 education. He also led several strategies supporting Washington State's educational system.

He is former Chief Executive of Chicago Public Schools. Prior to his appointment in Chicago, he was Superintendent of Schools for the Rochester, NY School District. Mr. Brizard's experience also includes a 21-year career as an educator and administrator with the NYC Department of Education. He served as a Regional Superintendent, supervising more than 100 schools in the Borough of Brooklyn and he also served as the system's Executive Director for its 400 secondary schools. He is a Fellow of the Broad Center, a Fellow of the Pahara-Aspen Institute, and a member of the Aspen Institute Global Leadership Network.

**PRESENTERS**

**Michael Calabrese  
Director, Wireless Future Project New America's Open Technology Institute**



Michael A. Calabrese directs the Wireless Future Project at New America's Open Technology Institute, a non-profit think tank based in Washington, D.C. He develops and advocates policies to promote ubiquitous, fast and affordable wireless broadband connectivity, including the reallocation of more prime spectrum to facilitate unlicensed access, next generation Wi-Fi, dynamic spectrum sharing and broadband competition.

Calabrese has served on the U.S. Department of Commerce Spectrum Management Advisory Committee (CSMAC) since 2009 and as an Invited Expert on President Obama's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) spectrum reform working group during 2011-2012.

Calabrese has previously served as Vice President of New America (2003-2010), General Counsel of the Congressional Joint Economic Committee, director of domestic policy at the Center for National Policy, and as a counsel at the national AFL-CIO. He is a graduate of Stanford Law and Business Schools (JD/MBA) and of Harvard College.

**Dr. Nathan L. Fisher Ed.D.**  
**Superintendent, Roselle Public School District**  
**Roselle, New Jersey**



Dr. Nathan L. Fisher, the Superintendent of Roselle Public School (RPS) district, has served the Roselle community as an educator and administrator for over 30 years.

Prior to his role as superintendent, Dr. Fisher previously served as the founding principal of the borough's Kindergarten Success Academy, vice principal and principal of Abraham Clark High School, and principal of Leonard V. Moore Middle School. He started his career at RPS as a substitute teacher back in 1990.

With more than three decades of experience under his belt, Dr. Fisher has spent his entire career working with the students of Roselle. Throughout his career, Dr. Fisher has received numerous professional accolades. To name a few, he has been awarded the Geraldine Dodge Fellowship Grant for Principal Leadership, Roselle's NAACP Role Model Award, named Principal of the Year by the Roselle Chamber of Commerce and most recently recipient of the Phi Delta Kappa, Delta Pi Chapter's Citation Award.

Dr. Fisher is a proud husband, father of four and grandfather of eight. He holds a bachelor's degree from Montclair State University, a master's degree from Kean University and a Doctorate of Education from Nova Southeastern University.

**Dr. Kristine Gilmore Ed.D.**  
**Superintendent**  
**D.C. Everest School District**  
**Schofield, Wisconsin**



Dr. Kristine Gilmore has led the D.C. Everest Area School District since 2003 as Superintendent. D.C. Everest is known as an innovative, student centered, high achieving, and digitally powered school district throughout the state and nation. Dr. Gilmore is a proven educational leader with experience bringing people together to achieve a shared vision around success for all learners. In 2012 she was named Wisconsin Superintendent of the Year. D.C. Everest serves as a model for districts throughout Wisconsin and nation around digital transformation and

innovation.

Dr. Gilmore is committed to supporting leaders as a conference speaker, Doctoral program coordinator, AASA Board member, AASA Aspiring Superintendents mentor, and as the Past President of the Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators. Passionate about making her hometown a great community, she has served on boards for the United Way, YMCA, Boys & Girls Club, North Central Technical College, St. Clare's Hospital, Chamber of Commerce, North Central Workforce and the Everest Foundation. She is proud to be an Evergreen along with her husband, Jim, and three children.

**Christopher Rush**  
**Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Innovation**  
**Director of Educational Technology**  
**U.S. Department of Education**



Chris Rush serves as the Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Innovation and Director of Educational Technology at the U.S. Department of Education. He also co-founded New Classrooms Innovation Partners, a nonprofit focused on new instructional models including the School of One personalized learning program, named one of Time Magazine's Top 50 Inventions of the Year. There he has served as Chief Program Officer overseeing model design, build and nationwide school implementation as well as de facto COO/President overseeing strategic and day to day organizational activities. Most notably, Chris previously worked in the Office of Accountability at the NYC Department of Education to co-lead and salvage the troubled design and development of NYC's \$95MM+ Achievement Reporting and Innovation System; Launched an ed-tech consulting services practice at Amplify Education; Specialized in financial management & IT development services at IBM; Founded a pair of tech startups during the dotcom bubble; & taught earth sciences for the Upper Dublin (PA) School District at Robbins Park Environmental Center.

Chris is a Pahara Fellow alum of the Aspen Institute, a recipient of the Robin Hood Heroes award, and holds a M.S. in Information Technology & B.S in Management Science and Information Systems. He is a recurring university guest lecturer at Stanford & Harvard Business Schools and sits on a number of boards for national social impact organizations. Chris splits his time between NYC & DC with his wife and two children.

**D'Andre J. Weaver. Ph.D.**  
**Chief Digital Equity Officer, Digital Promise**



D'Andre J. Weaver is a native of Chicago's South Side who understands the life-changing power of effective teachers and a quality public education. As a former public school teacher, principal, senior leader, and superintendent, D'Andre cares deeply about helping students realize their dreams. His leadership is centered around equity and access, learner-centered approaches, advancing digital equity, and organizational health.

Currently, D'Andre serves as Chief Digital Equity Officer (CDEO) at Digital Promise Global. As CDEO, D'Andre oversees the Verizon Innovative Learning Schools (VILS) program, part of Verizon's flagship education initiative with a national network of more than 500 Title I schools. Additionally, D'Andre will use lessons learned from the Verizon Innovative Learning Schools program and other Digital Promise initiatives to develop new state- and district-level opportunities for the organization that will further the goal of improving digital equity.

Under D'Andre's previous leadership as superintendent of DeSoto ISD – a Dallas, TX-area school system – the school district experienced a 12-point gain in the District's state accountability rating and saw increases in student learning, student connectedness, district finances, talent management, and stakeholder engagement. He also spearheaded an ambitious community driven and learner-centered strategic plan which prioritized a whole-child/whole-

family approach to education as well as an emphasis on personalization, competency-based education, and passion-driven learning.

Prior to his appointment as the superintendent of DeSoto ISD, D'Andre served as a Community Superintendent with Houston-area school system Spring Branch Independent School District where he oversaw 20 campuses and principals. He was a part of a senior leadership team that scaled personalization district-wide, impacting the district's 35,000 students, resulting in dramatic increases in student achievement and student belonging.

As a principal, D'Andre led Gwendolyn Brooks College Preparatory Academy, one of eleven selective enrollment high schools in the Chicago Public Schools system. During his tenure, academic achievement, graduation rates, college entrance and retention rates, and freshmen on-track rates improved to all-time highs. As a result, U.S. News and World Report recognized Brooks as the #10 best high school in Illinois, received four Gold Medal status awards, and was the first high school on the South Side of Chicago to be named a National Blue Ribbon High School.

D'Andre is a board member at the Chicago Public Education Fund and the Mastery Transcript Consortium. He is a Pahara Fellow, Racial Equity Leadership Network Fellow, and a member of Education Leaders of Color (EdLoc), Men of Color in Educational Leadership (MCEL), and several local and national educator associations.