

GLR Learning Tuesdays Webinar
EdTech Working:
Enhancing Teaching & Learning AND Scaling Needed Interventions

April 23, 2024

Moderator and Panelist Bios

MODERATOR

John Gomperts

Executive Fellow, Campaign for Grade-Level Reading



John Gomperts is a long-time leader in non-profits and government organizations devoted to civic engagement and to creating greater opportunity for children and youth. From 2012 - 2020, John served as President & CEO of America's Promise Alliance. Prior to that, John served as the Director of AmeriCorps in the Obama Administration. Earlier in his career, John worked in the US Senate (Sens. Wofford, Kerry, Daschle), practiced law and served as a judicial clerk. John earned his JD from Georgetown University Law Center and his AB in History from University of California, Berkeley. John has served on a wide range of boards including FoodCorps (Chair), Points of Light, Presidio Institute, News Literacy Project, and others.

PANELISTS

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.

Erin Mote

CEO and Founder, InnovateEdu



Erin Mote is the CEO and Founder of InnovateEDU. In this role, Erin leads the organization and its major projects including technology product development, work on data interoperability and data systems, and an urban education Fellowship for new educators. She leads the organization’s work on creating uncommon alliances to create systems change - in special education, talent development, and data modernization. An enterprise architect, she created, alongside her team, two of InnovateEDU’s signature technology products - Cortex, a next-generation personalized learning platform, and Landing Zone - a cutting-edge infrastructure as a service data product. Erin is also the co-founder of Brooklyn Laboratory Charter School with her husband Dr. Eric Tucker. Erin has served in an advisory capacity to the White House/OSTP’s US Ignite Initiative, the Obama Administration’s Global Development Innovation Policy, the State Department’s TechCamp program, and the Obama Administration’s intra-agency process for Rio 2.0 and Rio+20. Erin served as the founding Chief of Party for the USAID Global Broadband and Innovations Alliance – a \$19.5 million global technology expansion project. A recognized leader in alliance building, Erin serves in an advisory capacity for several leading international organizations including Digital Promise, SXSWedu Launch, XPrize, and the Barbara Bush Foundation.

Diego R. Ochoa

Superintendent, San Mateo-Foster City School District



Superintendent Ochoa led the San Mateo-Foster City School District in establishing a 5-year Strategic Plan involving over 70 stakeholders representing teachers, staff, administrators, labor partners, parents, and community organizations. Along with the School Board, Superintendent Ochoa debuted new strategies to improve district-wide communication. Superintendent Ochoa has 23 years of educational experience as a teacher, assistant principal, principal, director, executive director, and superintendent. He has a strong background in curriculum, instruction, special education, equity, student wellness, parent engagement, and school facilities. Superintendent Ochoa previously served as Superintendent of both the Esparto Unified School District and the Hollister School District. Ochoa earned his Bachelor of Arts, Special Education Teaching Credential, and Master of Arts in Education from California State University San Marcos. Superintendent Ochoa also studied in the Urban K-12 Educational Leadership joint doctoral program at the University of California, Irvine.

Beth Rabbitt

Chief Executive Officer, The Learning Accelerator



Beth Rabbitt is Chief Executive Officer of The Learning Accelerator (TLA). She is a nationally recognized expert in education innovation and blended and personalized learning.

Prior to becoming CEO in 2016, Beth was a Partner on TLA's start-up team, leading the organization's work to develop educator training systems and research on emerging teaching and learning models and practices. Beth brings over 20 years of experience in the K-12 nonprofit, philanthropic, and private sectors, having worked as a teacher, consultant, researcher, and funder. Most recently, prior to joining TLA, Beth was a Doctoral Resident and Director of Human Capital at a start-up school system in Newark, NJ, an Associate Partner at the NewSchools Venture Fund, a consultant to and with Education Resource Strategies, and the founding Doctoral Fellow at the Harvard Innovation Lab. Beth is a Pahara-Aspen Education Fellow and serves on the board of several education nonprofits, including Catalyst:Ed and GiveThx. She earned a B.A. from Dartmouth College and a doctorate (Ed.L.D.) from Harvard University, where she was an inaugural cohort member in the University's Doctor of Education Leadership program.

Jessica Sliwerski

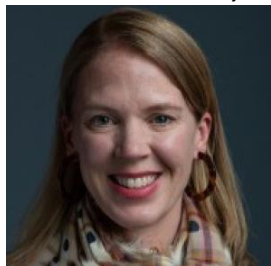
Co-Founder and CEO, Ignite Reading



Driven by the knowledge that every child can learn to read and that there is a proven way to teach them, Jessica co-founded Ignite Reading to deliver that instruction at scale. Early in her career, she served as assistant principal of Success Academy Charter Schools and a literacy specialist at The Urban Assembly. Jessica co-founded and was chief academic officer and chief product officer of LightSail Education, an adaptive literacy software company, and was CEO of Open Up Resources, a national nonprofit focused on increasing equity in education. Her work has been featured in the documentary films *The Lottery and The Right to Read*, and she is the author of the children's book *Cancer Hates Kisses* (Penguin, 2017). Jessica loves yoga, traveling, and reading with her daughter.

Mindy Sjoblom

Founder and CEO, OnYourMark



Mindy started OnYourMark with a passion for early literacy and deep experience building systems to cultivate and develop educators. While preparing to launch OnYourMark, Mindy served as an Entrepreneur in Residence at Charter School Growth Fund where she started her early literacy journey at the nexus of a growing demand for high dosage tutoring to address pandemic learning recovery and increased need to support schools with foundational skills reading instruction across the country. Prior to this newest adventure, Mindy served as Founding Dean of Relay Chicago, where she oversaw all aspects of campus growth/strategy, financial health, partnership development, political advocacy, and teacher preparation programming. Before joining Relay, Sjoblom served as Director of Curriculum and Instruction, then as principal, at Rauner College Prep, one of the Noble Schools. Sjoblom, an alumna of Teach For America, earned an M.A.T. from Johns Hopkins University, School Administrative credentials from National Louis University and a B.A. in political science from Butler University.