



# Innovative Approaches to Teacher Recruitment and Retention Across Rural and Diverse Regions

A CGLR Partner Webinar

June 11, 2024 | 3:00-4:30 pm ET/12:00-1:30 pm PT

*Panelist Bios*

## MODERATOR



**Betsy Mijares, Ed.D.**

**Program Officer of Education and Economic Opportunities**

**T.L.L. Temple Foundation**

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Dr. Betsy Mijares is a Program Officer of Education and Economic Opportunities at the TLL Temple Foundation. The T.L.L. Temple Foundation works alongside rural communities to build a thriving East Texas and to alleviate poverty, creating access and opportunities for all. With nearly 19 years in education, she earned a bachelor’s in criminal justice from Sam Houston State University and completed her teaching certification, master’s in secondary education, and doctorate in educational leadership at Stephen F. Austin State University. Her career includes roles as a teacher, principal, Director of Bilingual and ESL Programs at Lufkin ISD, and adjunct professor at Sam Houston State. Dr. Mijares actively participates in community organizations and continues to positively impact students and families in Deep East Texas.

## PANELISTS

**Jason Judd, Ed.D.**



**Executive Director**

**Educate Maine**

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Jason Judd is the executive director of Educate Maine, a business-led education advocacy organization. He joined the organization in 2016 after working as a teacher, college and career counselor, director of studies, and dean of academics at Maine Central Institute, an independent high school. He has a bachelor’s degree from the University of Maine at Farmington in secondary education English, a master’s degree from the University of Southern Maine in educational leadership, and a doctorate in organizational leadership studies from Northeastern University.



**Audrey Rogers, Ed.D.**

**Associate Dean, Graduate Education Programs and Professor of Education  
Southern New Hampshire University**

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Audrey Rogers is the Associate Dean for Graduate Education Programs and Professor of Education at Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) in Manchester, NH. She holds New Hampshire licensure as a Social Studies Educator (grades 5-12) and as a Digital Learning Specialist (K-12). She is past president and current member of the NH IHE (Institutions of Higher Education) Network, a consortium of all NH educator preparation programs. She received her B.A in History from Tufts University. She holds a Master's in History from the University of NH/Durham and a Master's in Education from the University of Massachusetts/Lowell. She holds a Doctorate in Leadership and Learning from Rivier University. Her recent research focused on competency-based education and assessment literacy in preservice educators.



**Flynn Ross, Ed.D.**

**Chair & Associate Professor of Teacher Education  
University of Southern Maine**

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Dr. Flynn Ross is Professor and Chair of Teacher Education at the University of Southern Maine. She is the PI on the state wide Maine Teacher Residency project to support teaching candidates who are employed full-time in Maine schools while completing their teacher certification. She has coordinate graduate and undergraduate cohorts of teacher candidates for over 25 years. She earned her doctorate from Teachers College Columbia University after teaching in rural Arkansas with Teach for America. Her co-edited book Decolonizing Classroom Management is due out Oct, '24 from Rowman and Littlefield.



**Nathan Sorber, Ph.D.**

**Director, School of Education  
College of Applied Human Sciences, West Virginia University**

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Nathan M. Sorber is the Director of the School of Education and an associate professor of education leadership and organizations in the College of Applied Human Sciences at West Virginia University. He is the author of several books on education including Change and Continuity in American Higher Education: Lessons

from Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Innovations (Routledge, 2020), Land-Grant Colleges and Popular Revolt: The Origins of the Morrill Act and the Reform of Higher Education (Cornell University Press, 2018), American Higher Education in the Postwar Era (Routledge, 2017), and Land-Grant Colleges and the Reshaping of American Higher Education (Transaction Press, 2013). Sorber has written extensively on land-grant colleges, the development of American higher education, and the relationship between education and the economy.