



Student Assessment & Learning Recovery: Promising Options to Inform Differentiated Instruction

A GLR Learning Tuesdays Webinar

April 6, 2021 | 3-4:30 pm ET/12-1:30 pm PT

Panelist Bios

MODERATOR



Tommy Chang, Ed.D.
Senior Advisor for Strategy & Programs
Great Public Schools Now
@drtommychang | @greatschoolsia

Tommy Chang, Great Public School Now's Senior Advisor for Strategy & Programs, was previously the Superintendent of Boston Public Schools from 2015-18. During his tenure, graduation rates increased, dropout rates decreased, and the school district had more high-performing schools than ever before. Tommy previously served as the local instructional superintendent of the Intensive Support & Innovation Center at the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). He is also former biology teacher and principal. A native of Taiwan who immigrated with his family to the U.S. at age six, Tommy is a member of Chiefs for Change and Education Leaders of Color.

PRESENTERS



Karen Barton, Ph.D.
Executive Vice President, State Solution Design & Development
NWEA
@NWEA

Karen Barton, Ph.D., has a life-long passion for ensuring assessments and learning environments serve all learners fairly and equitably. Karen leads the state design and development teams, including product management, assessment design and development, and software solutions. Collectively, these teams are focused on statewide innovations in assessment and learning designed to reach all learners, regardless of ability, need, background, school type, or placement.

Karen started her career as a special education teacher and has deep experience in education, psychometrics, research, and assessment development. She has contributed to educational research and leadership in areas such as validity and accessibility, evidence-based test development, scoring, scaling, reporting, learning progressions, and analytics. She has extensive experience leading psychometrics for numerous statewide testing programs responsible for the defensibility and quality of assessment content, designs, and results. Prior to rejoining NWEA in 2020, Karen served as vice

president of learning analytics at Discovery Education and most recently as senior vice president of research and assessment design at Edmentum. Karen received her BS in psychology and MS in special education from Longwood University in Virginia and her PhD in educational research and measurement from the University of South Carolina.



Larry Berger
Chief Executive Officer
Amplify
@LarryAmplify | @Amplify

Larry is the CEO of Amplify, a Brooklyn-based education company he co-founded (previously Wireless Generation) in 2000. He has led the invention of mobile software to help early reading teachers, and next-generation English, Math, and Science curricula for elementary and middle schools. Larry was a Rhodes scholar, a White House Fellow working on educational technology at NASA, and a Pahara-Aspen Education Fellow. He serves on the boards of Touch Press, Southern Education Foundation, The Academy of American Poets, Lapham's Quarterly, and the Institute for Sustained Attention.



Kristen Huff, Ed.D.
Vice President, Assessment and Research
Curriculum Associates
@CurriculumAssoc | @khuff8

Kristen Huff currently serves as the Vice President of Assessment and Research at Curriculum Associates, where she leads a team of assessment designers, psychometricians, and researchers in the development of online assessments integrated with personalized learning and whole-class instruction. Prior to this role, she served as the Senior Fellow for the New York State Education Department as well as serving in leadership roles with several major assessment companies. Dr. Huff has deep expertise in k-12 large-scale assessment and has co-chaired the NCME Task Force on Classroom Assessment since 2016.

COMMENTATORS



Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D.
Vice President & Chief Operating Officer
Student and Teacher Assessment
Educational Testing Service
@ETSInsights

Lillian Lowery earned a doctorate of education in educational leadership and policy studies from Virginia Polytechnic and State University, a master's degree in education in curriculum and instruction from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and a bachelor's degree in English education from North Carolina Central University.

She is a former Maryland State Superintendent of Schools and Delaware Secretary of Education. Prior to her roles at the state level, Lowery served as a district superintendent and high school principal. She was

appointed to her current role as vice president of Student and Teacher Assessments at Educational Testing Service (ETS) in September 2018.

Lowery joined ETS from The Education Trust in Washington, D.C., where she served as a content expert on issues related to pre-K through 12 education and fostered collaborations with national, state and local organizations. She is currently Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

Prior to her roles in education administration and advocacy, Lowery served as an English department chair and taught English in school districts in Virginia and North Carolina.