



GLR WEEK 2021 JULY 26–30

Bright Spots and Silver Linings

Meeting the Moment: Accelerating Equitable Recovery *and* Transformational Change

A GLR Learning Tuesdays Webinar Co-Sponsored with Education Week

July 27, 2021 | 3-4:00 pm ET/12-1:30 pm PT

Panelist Bios

MODERATOR



John Gomperts
Executive Fellow
Campaign for Grade-Level Reading
Former President and CEO
America's Promise Alliance
@JohnGomperts

John Gomperts, Executive Fellow with the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading, 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.

CO-DISCUSSANTS



Linda Darling-Hammond, Ed.D.
President and CEO
Learning Policy Institute
@LPI_Learning | @LDH_ed

Darling-Hammond is the Charles E. Ducommun Professor of Education Emeritus at Stanford University where she founded the Stanford Center for Opportunity Policy in Education and served as the faculty sponsor of the Stanford Teacher Education Program, which she helped to redesign. Darling-Hammond is past president of the American Educational Research Association and recipient of its awards for Distinguished

Contributions to Research, Lifetime Achievement, and Research-to-Policy. She is also a member of the American Association of Arts and Sciences and of the National Academy of Education. From 1994–2001, she was executive director of the National Commission on Teaching and America’s Future, whose 1996 report *What Matters Most: Teaching for America’s Future* was named one of the most influential reports affecting U.S. education in that decade. In 2006, Darling-Hammond was named one of the nation’s ten most influential people affecting educational policy. She led the Obama education policy transition team in 2008 and the Biden education transition team in 2020. Darling-Hammond began her career as a public school teacher and co-founded both a preschool and a public high school. She served as Director of the RAND Corporation’s education program and as an endowed professor at Columbia University, Teachers College. She has consulted widely with federal, state and local officials and educators on strategies for improving education policies and practices. Among her more than 500 publications are a number of award-winning books, including *The Right to Learn*, *Teaching as the Learning Profession*, *Preparing Teachers for a Changing World*, and *The Flat World and Education*. She received an Ed.D. from Temple University (with highest distinction) and a B.A. from Yale University (magna cum laude.)



Sal Khan
Founder and CEO
Khan Academy
@khanacademy

Sal Khan is the founder and CEO of [Khan Academy](#), a nonprofit organization with a mission to provide a free, world-class education for anyone, anywhere. Nearly 20 million learners use Khan Academy every month in 190 countries and 46 languages. Khan Academy also supports 200 school districts in the US with [MAP Accelerator](#), developed in partnership with NWEA. Sal’s newest non-profit, founded in the throes of the pandemic, is [Schoolhouse.world](#) which offers free peer tutoring over Zoom. Sal has been recognized as one of *TIME*’s 100 Most Influential People in the World. In his book, *The One World Schoolhouse*, Sal outlines his vision for the future of education.



Karen Mapp, Ed.D.
Faculty Director, Education Policy and Management Masters Program
Harvard Graduate School of Education
@hgse | @karen_mapp

Karen L. Mapp, EdD, is a Senior Lecturer on Education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE) and the Faculty Director of the Education Policy and Management Master’s Program. Over the past twenty years, her research and practice focus has been the cultivation of partnerships among families, community members and educators that support student achievement and school improvement. Dr. Mapp holds a Doctorate and Master’s of Education from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, a Master’s in Education from Southern Connecticut State University, and a Bachelor’s degree in Psychology from Trinity College in Hartford, CT. Dr. Mapp serves on the board of the National Association for Family, School, and Community Engagement (NAFSCE), the Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL), and The Hyams Foundation. From 2011 to 2013, Dr. Mapp served as a consultant on family and community engagement to the United States Department of Education in the Office of Innovation and Improvement.

Dr. Mapp joined the HGSE faculty in January of 2005 after serving for eighteen months as the Deputy Superintendent for Family and Community Engagement for the Boston Public Schools (BPS). While working with the BPS, she continued to fulfill her duties as president of the Institute for Responsive Education (IRE). She was president of IRE from September 1998 to December 2004.

Dr. Mapp is the author and co-author of several articles and books about the role of families and community members in the work of student achievement and school improvement including: *A New Wave Of Evidence: The Impact of School, Family and Community Connections on Student Achievement* (2002); *Beyond the Bake Sale: The Essential Guide to Family-School Partnerships* (2010); "Title I and Parent Involvement: Lessons from the Past, Recommendations for the Future" (2011); *A Match on Dry Grass: Community Organizing as a Catalyst for School Reform* (2011); "Partners in Education: A Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships" (2014); "Powerful Partnerships: A Teacher's Guide to Engaging Families for Student Success" (2017) and "Embracing a new normal: Toward a more liberatory approach to family engagement" (2021).



Rey Saldaña
President and CEO
Communities In Schools
@CISNational | @rey4sa

Rey Saldaña is the President and CEO of Communities In Schools®, (CIS™) the national organization that ensures all students are empowered to stay in school and on a path to a brighter future. Saldaña is a CIS alumnus, whose journey from former student supported by CIS to national leader of Communities In Schools, sends an inspiring message to young people nationwide about the power they have to write their own success story. Most recently, Saldaña served as the Regional Advocacy Director for the Raise Your Hand Texas Foundation and the Chair of the San Antonio Metropolitan Transit Agency-VIA. Prior to that, he successfully served four terms on the San Antonio City Council where he was first elected at age 24, becoming the youngest council person in that city's history. During his four terms, Saldaña focused on helping to meet the needs and harness the skills of young people and working families in his community. He championed the expansion of park space and community clinics in underserved areas, fought for increased funding for the city's public transportation system, successfully campaigned for funding of the city's early childhood initiative (Pre-K 4SA), and streamlined the city and county's child truancy court. He chaired the city's Intergovernmental Relations Committee, where he worked closely with state and federal legislators on law making and local policy development. Concurrent with his elected position, he taught as an Adjunct Professor at Trinity University and Palo Alto Community College. Additionally, he worked with The University of Texas at San Antonio's Office of Community Engagement and served as Chief Engagement Officer with KIPP San Antonio Public Schools. In recognition of his accomplishments and enduring interest in the mission of Communities In Schools, in 2017, Communities In Schools invited Saldaña to serve on the CIS National Board of Directors, making him the first alumni to join the Board. Saldaña holds a master's degree from Stanford University's Graduate School of Education where he studied policy, organization and leadership studies, and two bachelor's degrees in political science and communication from Stanford. The son of immigrants who came to this country from Mexico, Saldaña was born and raised on the South Side of San Antonio and is the product of Title I Texas public schools. He is a proud first-generation American and first in his family to graduate from college.