

THE COMMUNITY SYMPOSIUM: REDEFINING THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

Presented By:
The Bridgeport Public Education Fund, Inc.
&
The Connecticut Education Association



Featured Keynote:

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Breakout Room Topics

Introduction: Education, like many other professions, is at a critical crossroads in our country due to the Covid-19 pandemic. As we seek to find our way “back to normal”, I ask that you consider the following questions and the impacts on the future of public education.

1. The “distant” future: Teaching and learning in a digital age:

- How has the rise in the usage of technology impacted educators?
- How does the increased usage of technology impact experienced educators?

- What have we learned from teaching at a “distance”?
- How can distance learning be used to improve educational outcomes post-pandemic?

2. State of Mind: Addressing students' social and emotional needs:

What resources are available to assess social and emotional needs of students learning from a distance? Hybrid model(s)?

- How do we provide the necessary supports for students?

3. Special Education: Accommodating students who need specialized instruction and care:

- How do we address the needs of special education students from a distance? Within the hybrid model(s)?
- What resources are there for students, families and communities to address the identified needs?

4. Community in Schools: The role of community organizations:

- What services can community organizations provide to the learning community?
- How can educators play a vital role in securing community resources to assist students, families and schools?

5. Mining your business: The role of businesses public education:

- How can businesses impact the future of education?
- What impacts do improved educational outcomes have on the business community?

6. Engaging Parents/Guardians: Effective strategies to support distant learners and their families:

- How does caretaker engagement improve educational outcomes? What supports do caretakers need to improve educational outcomes?

- What can the learning community do to increase caretaker engagement/support?

7. Youth-centered learning: Student partnership for success:

- How can youth input be utilized to inform education policy?
- What can youth do to improve educational outcomes?

8. Policy, politics and performance: The impacts of policy and politics:

- How does policy/politics impact educational outcomes?
- What are the policy hindrances to achieving desired educational outcomes?

9. “Back to the Future”: Post-secondary partnerships:

- How can/does post-secondary institutions impact public education?
- What resources do post-secondary institutions have that can improve educational outcomes?

