



## BEST PRACTICES CLEARINGHOUSE

- Lessons from the Field -

### Blending and Braiding Funding for Full-Service Community Schools

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*Wednesday, April 26, 2023 | 3:00 – 4:30 PM ET*  
**SPEAKER BIOS**

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#### Bernadine Futrell

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Equity and Discretionary Grants and Support Services, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, United States Department of Education



Dr. Bernadine Futrell, Ph.D., was most recently the director of the Office of Head Start (OHS) at HHS' Administration for Children and Families. Futrell, began her career as an assistant Head Start teacher in Virginia. She came to OHS in the Biden-Harris Administration from the National Head Start Association (NHSA), where she was most recently the senior director for effective practice. Prior to NHSA, Futrell led superintendent certification programs at the American Association of School Administrators. She is co-author of the book *ConnectED Leaders: Network and Amplify your Superintendency* and holds a bachelor's degree from Virginia Commonwealth University, and a M.Ed. and a Ph.D. in education policy from George Mason University. Dr. Futrell and her husband are the proud parents of two young children.

#### Mario Cardona

Policy Advisor, Domestic Policy Council



Mr. Mario Cardona currently serves as the Senior Advisor for Early Childhood Development and Education on the White House Domestic Policy Council. He is currently on leave from Arizona State University, where he serves as a Professor of Practice and Director of Policy for the Children's Equity Project. Previously, Mr. Cardona was the Chief of Policy and Practice for Child Care Aware® of America, the largest national nonprofit focused on child care. He also served in the Obama Administration as the Senior Policy Advisor for Education on the White House Domestic Policy Council. Prior to his service in the Obama

Administration, Cardona held senior roles in the U.S. Senate, including as a principal advisor to the Chairman of the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee. Mr. Cardona earned a Master's degree in education from Harvard University and his juris doctorate, with honors, from the George Washington University Law School. Mr. Cardona is also a Pahara Institute Fellow.

## Jane Hodgdon

Supervisory Education Program Specialist, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, United States Department of Education



Ms. Jane Hodgdon is a Supervisory Education Program Specialist in the U.S. Department of Education's (ED's) Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE). She comes from a family of teachers and grew up planning to be in the classroom. After graduating from the University of Colorado Boulder with a degree in English Literature and her secondary teaching license, Ms. Hodgdon moved to Mexico to teach English. She used her proficiency in Spanish to secure her first full-time position as a bilingual language arts and reading teacher in Denver Public Schools. Ms. Hodgdon returned to Maryland several years later to pursue a master's degree in applied anthropology at the University of Maryland College Park while working full-time at ED. Passionate about the intersection of education, safety, health, housing, and economic development, Ms. Hodgdon has worked to build partnerships across federal agencies, as well as with national partners and local communities.

Now the lead for ED's Full-Service Community Schools (FSCS) program, Ms. Hodgdon and the FSCS team are responsible for making, monitoring, and supporting discretionary grants that provide well-rounded educational opportunities that meet the social, emotional, physical and mental health, and academic needs of students. Outside of work, Ms. Hodgdon enjoys being in the mountains, hiking with her friends, kids, and dog.

## Patrick Rooney

Director, School Support and Accountability, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, United States Department of Education



Mr. Patrick Rooney is the Director of School Support and Accountability. He oversees several key components of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), including 21st Century Community Learning Centers; Title I, Part A; Title I, Part D; Title II; Title III; State Assessment Grants; Competitive Grants for State Assessments; McKinney-Vento Homeless Education; Well-Rounded Education through Student-Centered Funding; and 21st Century Community Learning Centers Out of School Time Career Pathway programs. Together, these programs award more than \$22 billion annually to states and districts.

Prior to this, Mr. Rooney was the Deputy Director in the Office of State Support from 2014 to 2018, where he oversaw many of these same programs. Mr. Rooney previously helped lead the work of the Reform Support Network, providing technical assistance to states implementing comprehensive Race to the Top reforms, and the Race to the Top Assessment program, which provided grants to groups of states to develop new assessments aligned to state's college and career ready standards. Mr. Rooney also worked in the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education supporting states implement their accountability and assessment systems.

Mr. Rooney previously worked in the DC Office of State Superintendent of Education, where he was a senior policy advisor and worked on a variety of K-12 issues in the District of Columbia. He started his career as a statistician in the National Center for Education Statistics, analyzing education trends for a variety of topics in the Congressionally mandated annual report, The Condition of Education.

## Elson Nash

Director, School Choice and Improvement Programs, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, United States Department of Education



Mr. Elson B. Nash has worked in the education and non-profit fields for over 25 years. He started his career with the Carter Center's first domestic initiative called the Atlanta Project (TAP). After TAP, Mr. Nash worked in various capacities in higher education at the local, state, and national levels. Elson's career as a funder began at Ashoka-Innovators for the Public where he searched and selected social entrepreneurs in the U.S. and Canada. From Ashoka Mr. Nash went to the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) where he started as a program coordinator for Learn and Serve America. His tenure at CNCS ended after 10 years where he ultimately served as the Deputy Director of the White House Council for Community Solutions.

In July of 2012, Mr. Nash began as Team Lead for the Promise Neighborhoods and Full-Service Community Schools programs at the U.S. Department of Education. After serving as the Team Lead for over nine years, Mr. Nash became Director of the School Choice and Improvement Program Division in October of 2021.

## Mary Frances Street

Education Program Specialist, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, United States Department of Education



Ms. Mary Frances Street is a program officer for the Title I, Part A program, housed within the Office of School Support and Accountability. She provides resources and technical assistance for several States on Title I related questions, including school improvement, ESEA consolidated State plans, and reporting requirements.

Prior to her work at the Department, Ms. Street graduated from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville with a Bachelor of Science in Child and Family Studies and a Master of Science in School Counseling. Ms. Street served in several levels of education, including the school level, State level, and in policy development and research. Notably, Ms. Street served as the Policy and Research Fellow for TennesseeCAN, where she developed education policy materials and analyses for policymakers in Tennessee. She also served as a Policy Fellow for the Urban Leaders Fellowship, developing policy recommendations for the Tennessee State Board of Education. While earning her Master of Public Policy in Education Policy from Vanderbilt University, Ms. Street also worked as a graduate assistant on the research and implementation of a social-emotional advisory program in Florida.

## Stephen Kostyo

Federation of American Scientists Impact Fellow, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, United States Department of Education



Mr. Stephen Kostyo is a Federation of American Scientists Impact Fellow with the U.S. Department of Education. He previously served as a Senior Policy Advisor at the Learning Policy Institute and Legislative Assistant for Congressman Tim Ryan from Ohio. In these roles he has worked on a range of federal and state education issues, including community schools, teacher retention, opportunity-to-learn indicators, and social emotional learning. Before joining the Department, he also taught Education Policy Implementation as an Adjunct Instructor at American University. Earlier in his career, Mr. Kostyo was a middle and high school math and science teacher. In 2015, while teaching mathematics at Charlottesville High School, he was voted Teacher of the Year. Mr. Kostyo received a B.S. in Quantitative Economics and a B.A. in Political Science with honors at Miami University.

## Jay Roscup

Community Schools Director, Sodus Central School District, NY



Mr. Jay Roscup has served as an afterschool youth worker, ELA teacher, non-profit Executive and school administrator. As the Safe Schools Healthy Students Project Director at Sodus CSD over a decade ago and the Director of the Community Schools Initiative in Lyons for a competitive NYS grant eight years ago, he gained experience in braiding resources with a place-based person-centered lens. In those roles, he organized building supports, served on student intervention teams, and worked in areas ranging from early childhood to juvenile justice and mental health. Currently, Mr. Roscup has the Community Schools Director for Wayne County Community Schools where he supports coordinators in schools on the journey to being Full Service Community Schools and he is a Project Director for Full Service Community Schools projects.

## Kim McWilliams

Chief Officer of Family, School, and Community Partnerships, Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation, IN



Mr. Kim McWilliams, Jr. is the Chief Officer of Family, School, and Community Partnerships at the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation (EVSC) which serves 40 schools and 22,000 students. Mr. McWilliams has dedicated 28 years working in public education. Prior to his current role, he began his career as an elementary school teacher, served as a K-12 school counselor, and a K-8 administrator. The EVSC is Bringing Learning to Life through the development of the whole child which is accomplished by utilizing neuroscience education and bridging the school day and out of school time. EVSC works collaboratively with our families and community towards students graduating high school with the cognitive, academic, executive functioning and employability skills needed to be successful at work, at home, and in the community.