



2019 NNERPP ANNUAL FORUM

JULY 8 – 10, 2019

GILLETTE STADIUM
FOXBOROUGH, MA

*In Association with the Massachusetts Department of
Elementary & Secondary Education Research
Partnerships*





MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Hey, NNERPP!

Welcome to the 2019 NNERPP Annual Forum, our fourth official gathering as a network of research-practice partnerships. We are very excited to see many returning participants this year, as well as meet a bunch of new friends!

As we continue to learn more about the RPP enterprise with you, we realize how much more there is to discover. That's why the theme of this year's forum is all about the learning journey -- you'll see the agenda reflects our commitment to expanding our collective knowledge and contains several new innovations that we hope you'll enjoy. You'll also notice that we'll be focusing a great deal of attention on issues surrounding our collective pursuit of equity and excellence in education, a topic of immense importance to educators around the country today.

Before we dive in, we want to give a special thanks to Jonathan and Patti Kraft, whose generous offer to host us in this wonderfully unique space will make this year's meeting especially memorable. We would also like to acknowledge our family of funders, whose continuing support makes the Annual Forum and NNERPP possible: The William T. Grant Foundation, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Spencer Foundation, The Annie E. Casey Foundation, and The Wallace Foundation.

With that, let's dive in! Have a terrific Annual Forum!

PAULA ARCE-TRIGATTI | Director, NNERPP

FORUM THEME

THE RPP JOURNEY: LEARNING TOGETHER IN PURSUIT OF EQUITY and EXCELLENCE

FORUM OBJECTIVES

- Exchange strategies and knowledge for creating, developing, and sustaining effective research-practice partnerships
 - Explore promising practices for facilitating the use of research evidence in policy and practice
 - Identify strategic leadership roles for the NNERPP community to strengthen the RPP field
 - Generate new ideas and strategies to address current and future challenges and opportunities for RPPs
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2019 ANNUAL FORUM AGENDA

MONDAY, JULY 8, 2019

3:00 PM - 8:30 PM

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM
NORTHEAST LOUNGE

→ FORUM KICKOFF AND WELCOME

Enter through E1 & E2. Learn more about NNERPP, this year's activities, and meet up with your colleagues from around the country!

Facilitated by Paula Arce-Trigatti and Jim Kohlmoos, NNERPP

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
NORTHEAST LOUNGE

→ RPP THEORY OF ACTION WORKSHOP

Our third iteration of this workshop -- in this round, we focus on learning about the inner workings of your projects. Make sure to bring 5 hard copies of your completed "Theory of Change" template!

Facilitated by Paula Arce-Trigatti (NNERPP) and Caitlin Farrell (National Center for Research in Policy & Practice)

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM
CROSS INSURANCE
PAVILION

→ RECEPTION and CONSULTATIONS

Check the consultations schedule and meet up with new (and old) friends!

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
CROSS INSURANCE
PAVILION

→ DINNER and SPOTLIGHT ON MASSACHUSETTS

Have dinner and enjoy a special learning exchange with our friends from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education as we hear about their experiences working with research.

Panel moderated by Carrie Conaway (Harvard University)

Invited panelists: Cliff Chuang, Meagan Comb, and Nyal Fuentes from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education



2019 ANNUAL FORUM AGENDA

TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2019

8:00 AM - 10:45 AM

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM → **BREAKFAST**

NORTHEAST LOUNGE Enter through E1 & E2. Get your learning day started right!

9:00 AM - 10:15 AM → **ROLE-ALIKE WORKSHOPS**
SELECT A CONVERSATION FROM BELOW

- SUITE - R17 → **BROKERING | Translating, communicating, engaging across R & P**
Work with fellow participants on the first draft of a "Brokers" handbook.
Facilitated by Laura Wentworth (Stanford-SFUSD Partnership) and Carrie Conaway (Harvard University)
- SUITE - R18 → **DIRECTING | Managing, directing, running the RPP**
Collaboratively design expert responses to pressing RPP managerial challenges.
Facilitated by Elaine Allensworth (UChicago Consortium) and Lyzz Davis (AIR/CAER)
- SUITE - R19 → **IMPLEMENTING | Gathering, applying, using R to inform P**
Dive deep into frameworks defining the roles of research and evidence in practice.
Facilitated by Norma Ming (Stanford-SFUSD Partnership) and Nicole Ralston (Multnomah County Partnership for Education Research)
- SUITE - R20 → **NETWORKING | Connecting communities across R & P**
Learn how to broaden your RPP's engagement with a variety of critical community stakeholders.
Facilitated by Amy Gerstein and Jorge Ruiz de Velasco (John W. Gardner Center)
- SUITE - R21 → **PLANNING | Early phase Rs or Ps**
Bring your questions if you are in the start-up phase of an RPP or thinking about getting started.
Facilitated by Matthew Linick (AIR/CAER)
- SUITE - R22 → **RESEARCHING | Planning and conducting R with P**
Identify dilemmas and develop guidelines for how to initiate and conduct RPP research.
Facilitated by Sarah Dickson (Chicago Public Schools/UChicago Consortium) and Kyo Yamashiro (LAERI)

10:15 AM - 10:45 AM → **BREAK**



2019 ANNUAL FORUM AGENDA

TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2019

10:45 AM - 1:15 PM

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM → **TOPICAL DISCUSSIONS ON RPP EFFECTIVENESS**

SELECT A CONVERSATION FROM BELOW

SUITE - R17 → **PARTNERSHIP THEORIES OF ACTION I What's really behind the arrows?**

Bring your partnership-level TOA and learn what it takes to really move the partnership from theory to action.

Facilitated by Cary Cuiccio (REL Southwest), Julie Kochanek (REL Midwest), Stephen Lipscomb (REL Mid-Atlantic), Chris Mazzeo (REL Northwest), and Joshua Stewart (REL Central)

SUITE - R18 → **RESEARCH USE I How do we integrate evidence-based practices to support evidence-based practice?**

Rethink your RPP artifact to better position it to support evidence-based practice, per the research.

Facilitated by Caitlin Farrell (NCRPP) and Elizabeth Grant (George Washington University/EdCORE)

SUITE - R19 → **COMMUNICATIONS I How can we communicate externally about RPP effectiveness?**

Identify key external stakeholders and design a compelling message communicating the value of your RPP.

Facilitated by Kylie Klein (Evanston-Skokie School District 65/NEERA) and Ruth López Turley (Rice University/HERC)

SUITE - R20 → **COMMUNICATIONS I How can we communicate internally about RPP effectiveness?**

Learn about tools partnerships use to communicate about progress internally and design your own.

Facilitated by Jessica Vasan (Houston Independent School District/HERC) and Erin O'Hara (Vanderbilt University/TERA)

SUITE - R21 → **RPP EFFECTIVENESS IN ACTION I Attending to issues of equity using the Henrick, et. al. 5 Dimensions Framework**

Apply the 5 Dimensions Framework to explore how an RPP might effectively support a variety of equity-focused goals.

Facilitated by Erin Henrick (Partner To Improve) and Steven McGee (The Learning Partnership/CAFÉCS)

SUITE - R22 → **PLANNING I How can we plan for important RPP milestones in the start-up phase?**

Identify key milestones (and obstacles) in the start-up phase of an RPP and how to anticipate them.

Facilitated by Beth Vaade (Madison Metropolitan School District/MEP) and Sara Slaughter (Tulane University/ERA New Orleans)

12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

→ **LUNCH and CONSULTATIONS**

NORTHEAST LOUNGE

Check the consultations schedule and meet up with new (and old) friends!



2019 ANNUAL FORUM AGENDA

TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2019

1:15 PM - 3:15 PM

1:15 PM - 1:30 PM → **BREAK and SHUFFLE**

1:30 PM - 2:45 PM → **RPP "HOW TO" LEARNING DISCUSSIONS, ROUND 1**
SELECT A CONVERSATION FROM BELOW

THEORY + PRACTICE SERIES

SUITE - R17 → **DATA VISUALIZATION + USE I Introduction to Data Viz and Learning Analytics**
Learn about the theory guiding good data visualization to support use through examples.
Facilitated by Fabio Campos (New York University)

SUITE - R18 → **IMPROVEMENT SCIENCE I Introduction to Improvement Science + Networked Improvement Communities (NICs)**
Learn about the basics behind improvement science and how this is supported in a NIC.
Facilitated by Kelly McMahon and David Sherer (Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching)

SUITE - R19 → **COMMUNICATIONS PROCESSES I Introduction to Communications Science**
Learn about the theories underlying communications processes and apply these to your work.
Facilitated by Susan Mello (Northeastern University)

REAL WORLD EXAMPLES SERIES

SUITE - R20 → **RESEARCH STRATEGIES I How Might an RPP Support an RCT...Also, Should It?**
Learn from ERA New Orleans' RCT experience and hear RCT cautionary tales from the P-side.
Facilitated by Lindsay Weixler (Tulane University/ERA New Orleans) and Carrie Conaway (Harvard University)

SUITE - R21 → **DATA I How to Build a Data Infrastructure to Support Partnership Work**
Learn how to set up critical data infrastructures to support RPP work from two real world examples.
Facilitated by Holly Heard (Rice University/HERC) and Laura Wentworth (Stanford-SFUSD Partnership)

SUITE - R22 → **EXAMPLES OF EQUITY & EXCELLENCE I Spotlight on NEERA**
Learn how the Northwestern Evanston Education Research Alliance (NEERA) approaches equity-focused work in its partnership efforts.
Facilitated by Amy Pratt (Northwestern University/NEERA), Karen Smilowitz (Northwestern University/NEERA), and Kylie Klein (Evanston-Skokie School District 65/NEERA)

2:45 PM - 3:15 PM → **BREAK and SHUFFLE**



2019 ANNUAL FORUM AGENDA

TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2019

3:15 PM - 6:00 PM

3:15 PM - 4:30 PM

→ **RPP "HOW TO" LEARNING DISCUSSIONS, ROUND 2**
SELECT A CONVERSATION FROM BELOW

THEORY + PRACTICE SERIES

SUITE - R17 → **DATA VISUALIZATION + USE I Creating Conditions to Support Data or Research Use**
Learn from district case studies how supporting data or research use really works in practice.
Facilitated by Joy Lesnick (School District of Philadelphia/PERC) and Matthew Linick (AIR/CAER)

SUITE - R18 → **IMPROVEMENT SCIENCE I Supporting Improvement Science in RPPs: Spotlight on BERC**
Learn how the Baltimore Education Research Consortium integrates improvement science in its work.
Facilitated by Faith Connolly (Johns Hopkins University/BERC) and Theresa Jones (Baltimore City Public Schools/BERC)

SUITE - R19 → **COMMUNICATIONS PROCESSES I Reexamining the Purpose of the Policy Brief: Why the Process Matters and the Brief Doesn't**
Learn about the policy brief process developed by the Tennessee Education Research Alliance.
Facilitated by Jessica Holter (Vanderbilt University/TERA) and Jeff Archer (Knowledge Design Partners)

REAL WORLD EXAMPLES SERIES

SUITE - R20 → **RESEARCH STRATEGIES I How to Create an Ecosystem for Scalable Challenge Collaboratives**
Learn from Digital Promise's partnership experiences with multiple districts to solve pressing problems.
Facilitated by Babe Liberman and Barbara Means (Digital Promise)

SUITE - R21 → **DATA I How to Implement a District-Wide or State-Wide Survey**
Learn how to set up critical data infrastructures to support the implementation of large-scale surveys.
Facilitated by Laura Booker (Vanderbilt University)

SUITE - R22 → **EXAMPLES OF EQUITY & EXCELLENCE I Spotlight on the Equity Implemented Partnership**
Learn how the Equity Implemented Partnership approaches equity-focused work in its RPP.
Facilitated by Kingsley Botchway (Waterloo Community School District/EIP) and Sarah Bruch (University of Iowa/EIP)

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

→ **RECEPTION and CONSULTATIONS**

NORTHEAST LOUNGE

Check the consultations schedule and meet up with new (and old) friends!

5:30 PM - 6:00 PM

→ **GROUP PHOTO ON THE FIELD**

6:00 PM

→ **DINNER ON YOUR OWN**



2019 ANNUAL FORUM AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2019

8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

NORTHEAST LOUNGE

→ **BREAKFAST and MORNING ORIENTATION**

Enter through E1 & E2. Start the last day of your learning journey right by huddling with your RPP team over breakfast! Make sure to check out of the hotel prior to walking over to the Stadium.

9:00 AM - 9:45 AM

NORTHEAST LOUNGE

→ **HEY, NNERPPP! TALKS**

Inspired by Beth Vaade's iconic phrase from NNERPP18, the "HEY, NNERPPP! Talks" are new to the Forum this year. Hear from five leaders in the RPP space about their vision for the future of education!

Invited speakers: John Q. Easton (UChicago Consortium), Carla Stevens (Houston Independent School District/HERC), Nicole Patton Terry (Florida State University/Urban Child Study Center), and Matthew Holsapple (Spencer Foundation)

9:45 AM - 10:00 AM

→ **BREAK and SHUFFLE**

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

NORTHEAST LOUNGE

→ **SOLUTIONS LABS**

New at NNERPP this year, take a deep dive into vexing dilemmas of the present and future we face as a field, and team up to test or design prototypes of solutions for future action.

Facilitated by Paula Arce-Trigatti and Jim Kohlmoos (NNERPP)

11:30 AM - 12:00 PM

NORTHEAST LOUNGE

→ **FULL GROUP REFLECTIONS**

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

→ **LUNCH**

Grab a boxed lunch and enjoy our last meal together before heading home!



CREDITS

→ ABOUT NNERPP

MISSION

The National Network of Education Research-Practice Partnerships (NNERPP) aims to develop, support, and connect partnerships between education agencies and research institutions in order to improve the relationship between research, policy, and practice.

OBJECTIVES

- Develop and share promising partnership strategies and practices
- Synthesize new partnership research and build new knowledge to support improvements in education
- Support comparative, cross-site research and facilitate cross-partnership collaborations
- Advance policies and system reforms to support RPP efforts

→ NNERPP LEADERSHIP

STAFF

PAULA ARCE-TRIGATTI, Director
NINA SPITZLEY, Program Administrator
JIM KOHLMOOOS, Senior Advisor

STEERING COMMITTEE

BETH VAADE, Madison Metropolitan School District + Madison Education Partnership
CARRIE SCHOLZ, AIR + REL Midwest
ERIN O'HARA, Vanderbilt University + Tennessee Education Research Alliance
FAITH CONNOLLY, Johns Hopkins University + Baltimore Education Research Consortium
KINGSLEY BOTCHWAY, Waterloo Community School District + Equity Implemented Partnership
MATTHEW LINICK, AIR + Cleveland Alliance for Education Research
RUTH LÓPEZ TURLEY, Rice University + Houston Education Research Consortium

NNERPP is a program of the Kinder Institute for Urban Research at Rice University

 nnerpp.rice.edu

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ENTRANCE TO GILLETTE STADIUM

