Strategic Networking

In this highly participatory skill-building session, panelists offer case studies of strategic network navigation and facilitate conversation with the audience to determine what are the conditions and competencies that lead to successful coalition and movement-building. Confront common pitfalls and challenges to collaboration, brainstorm how to reach across aisles, sectors, and geographies, and debate how to balance long-term vision with short-term policy windows.

Nancy Lewin
Executive Director
Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents

Dr. Nancy Lewin has served in a variety of positions over her 23-year career, including Special Education Director and Chief Academic Officer with Accomack County Public Schools in Virginia, Adjunct Professor with University of St. Thomas in Houston, School Administrator with Alief Independent School District, and Bilingual Teacher with Houston Independent School District. She has vast experience with ESL, bilingual education, dual language, STEM, career technology education, gifted and special education programs. She was a member of the ALAS Superintendents Leadership Academy (SLA) Cohort V, where she saw first-hand the significant impact the organization is making in access for Latinos. Dr. Lewin earned a Bachelor of Science in Education with a Minor in Bilingual/ESL Education from Texas Southern University, a Master of Arts in Supervision and Administration from University of Houston-Victoria, and a Doctor of Education degree in Professional Leadership from University of Houston. In addition, Dr. Lewin is a Rice University - Rice Educators Entrepreneurial Program (REEP) Fellow and graduate of Annenberg Foundation A+ Leadership Academy. Dr. Lewin has extensive experience in both urban and rural public school settings and has worked to close the achievement gap and prepare students for college and career pathways. Her support for students includes emphasis on implementation of Multi-Tiered Support Strategies and Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) has led to changing the academic trajectories of many students. She believes in mitigating the factors that all too often lead to students dropping out of school. Dr. Lewin’s life story is a humble testament to the power of education. She is the youngest of twelve in a migrant worker family. She knew the meaning of hard work through field labor and took advantage of every educational opportunity.

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José Muñoz joined IEL as the director of its Coalition for Community Schools initiative in 2017. He brings over 25 years of cross-sector partnership experience for youth, family, and community development across the United States. Before IEL, he was the ABC Community School Partnership executive director, which is a unique cross-sector joint partnership agreement between Albuquerque Public Schools, the City of Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, the Albuquerque Hispano Chamber of Commerce, the United Way of Central New Mexico, and the University of New Mexico. During his time at the ABC Community School Partnership, he served the children in Albuquerque and across New Mexico. José strategically scaled up the community schools strategy from four to 26 schools in five years, securing over three million dollars through successful policy advocacy and developing key partnerships for community schools with state and local governments, school districts, teachers unions, and local businesses. In 2014, José won the first Community Schools Initiative Leadership Award. Before ABC Community School Partnership, he served three states, four counties, and nine cities through the Boys & Girls Clubs. José developed high-quality, out-of-school time activities and led gang prevention, intervention, and re-entry programs, earning a national legacy award. He developed full-service Clubs that met the needs of every child and family. He is a founding member of the Southern Nevada Community Gang Task Force and is responsible for establishing a youth-run business. José expanded his service in Bernalillo County, New Mexico as the Coordinator of a national model site for the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative supported by the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

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Scott Nine joined NPESF in July 2017 as Deputy Director of Strategy and Program after serving as a lead consultant with the Partnership for the Future of Learning. Scott previously served as the Executive Director of the Institute for Democratic Education in America (IDEA) where he spent five years traveling, listening, organizing, and learning about the state of education across the U.S. and Puerto Rico. His work focuses on the intersections of place and community-based education, movement building, systems entrepreneurship, action research, and public narrative. Scott was featured in the American Education Research Association’s “Lead the Change” series in 2014. He earned his MSW from Arizona State University in 2002.

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