



2016 NACSA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Learning From Our Neighbors: Community-Based Strategies for Education Transformation

Community-based strategies for education innovation and reform are becoming more prominent across America, and while some are still in their infancy, others are showing results and transforming the educational landscape. Complex issues, such as turnaround strategies, equity and access, grassroots engagement, and authorizer quality continue to plague communities. Often, charters are seen as part of the solution, and authorizer quality is pivotal to the success of these strategies. Hear from a panel of experts, who will share their experience with community-wide strategies, what they're doing to address these challenges, and what role they think authorizers can play to be part of the solution.

Session Title: Learning From Our Neighbors: Community-Based Strategies for Education Transformation

Session speakers: Butch Trusty (moderator, Education Cities)
Noah Devine (Kauffman Foundation)
Gloria Lee (Educate78)
Josh McCarty (New Schools for New Orleans)

Context: *(In what context was this information presented? Workshop? Panel discussion? What were the goals of the session?)*

This session was a panel presentation moderated by Butch Trusty. Panelists were given an opportunity to introduce themselves as well as their individual organizations. Questions centered around overall system based approaches. Audience members were given an opportunity to ask questions, delve further into topics or drill down on particular issues.

Key Takeaways: *(Please provide 3 key takeaways from your session. What points do you want to reinforce with attendees? If they learned 3 things from the session, what should they be?)*

1. The term quarterback organization is new to our vernacular. As a sector, we need to familiarize ourselves with this term, with the various organizations who fall under this umbrella, and the great amount of work that can be done in parallel with these groups.
2. We need to step back from our authorizing work to best understand how we can partner with quarterback organizations to help influence:



- location and saturation
 - authorization shopping
 - charter quality
 - new schools
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- philanthropies
3. Community engagement is a complicated and broad reaching, vital strategy. We need to really dive into understanding and using targeted strategies to improve outcomes in this area. In order to do so, some key questions to ask are:
- how do we better understand strategies and tactics as well as timeline
 - how to learn how to turn disenfranchised voices into empowered voices
 - how to differentiate between engagement and authentic engagement.
4. The issue of common enrollment, or unified enrollment is one to continue to study, codify and explore. Across the country, we need to understand:
- how important is unified enrollment and what does the data show us
 - how do we use it as pressure point
 - how do we use it to combat the “saturation” issue vs. quality issue
 - how do we use it as a political tool?

In addition, since unified enrollment doesn't cover information gap, what are the other tools we can use to provide stakeholders with key information to guide decisions. For example- a parent guide, etc.? We need to explore how this information is portrayed in a way that is parent/family friendly, and what ways should it be made accessible for all.

Additional Resources: *(Where can attendees receive additional information? Resources on the Knowledge Core? Other publications? NACSA consulting services or other member benefits? These will be published on the website alongside the PowerPoint and any handouts you send me, so no need to attach those resources. However, feel free to share links to pages on the NACSA website, contact information for speakers/facilitators, links to topical news articles or videos you may have shared, etc.)*