



2016 NACSA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCEy

What is the Authorizer's Role in Ensuring Equity in School Admissions?

This session will focus on state and authorizer roles relating to diversity in charters. Much of the federal and philanthropic impetus has been on so-called 90/90 schools (90+ percent black and Latino; 90+ percent students eligible for free/reduced price lunch). In that context, the potential for charters to also serve as vehicles for socioeconomic and racial integration has been constrained.

Session Title: What is the Authorizer's Role in Ensuring Equity in School Admissions?

Session speakers: Karega Rausch (NACSA)
Bryan Hassel (Public Impact)
Carly Bolger (Walton Foundation)
David Frank (NYSED)

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

This workshop was presented in a moderated panel format. Focused questions guided the discussion, followed by audience questions and a more free-flowing dialogue.

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 question of the role of the authorizer in ensuring equity is a complicated and sensitive subject throughout our sector. Finding the right balance point between an authorizer's focus on equity, or an adherence to a law, without infringing on autonomy, or, innovation, is walking a fine line. In order to navigate this, much discussion needs to take place and specific strategies need to be mapped.
2. In order to implement targeted strategies to ensure access to high quality schools for all students, data is essential. As a sector, we need to improve our access to data, our understanding of data, our ability to analyze data, and what types of data do we need to drive policy change.
3. As a sector, we often focus our work on those schools that aren't getting the job done. With this complicated issue, we should focus on highlighting, celebrating and growing those schools in our individual portfolios that are meeting an exceeding equity and quality goals.



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.)

KAREGA WAS PUTTING TOGETHER LIST OF SOLUTIONS DISCUSSED AND BRAINSTORMED- I HAVEN'T SEEN LIST YET, BUT WOULD BE GREAT TO INCLUDE