FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2021

Live Opening Address, 4:00 PM

Welcome by Ben Scafidi, Chair of the Planning Committee

Live Opening Keynote, 4:10 - 5:00 PM

Live Opening Reception 5:00 - 6:00 PM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 2021

Session One, 10:00 - 11:00 AM

Charter Schools: Equity, Accountability, and the Market

CHAIR:

Emily Coady, University of Arkansas

PARTICIPANTS:

Heidi Holmes Erickson, Kennesaw State University Helen F. Ladd, Duke University Edward Fiske, Education Writer and Editor Patrick J. Wolf, University of Arkansas Larry D. Maloney, Aspire Consulting Corey A. DeAngelis, Reason Foundation Jay F. May, EduAnalytics

Who Wins in School Choice: Evaluating the Impact of Charter Schools on the Market Share of Private Schools (**Heidi Holmes Erickson**, Kennesaw State University)

Equity-oriented accountability for charter Schools: The case of Massachusetts (**Helen F. Ladd**, Duke University; Edward Fiske, Education Writer and Editor)

Public Charter School Funding Inequities across U.S. Cities and Over Time (**Patrick J. Wolf**, University of Arkansas; **Larry D. Maloney**, Aspire Consulting; Corey A. DeAngelis, Reason Foundation; Jay F. May, EduAnalytics)

DISCUSSANT:

Emily Coady, University of Arkansas

Responses to the Pandemic

CHAIR:

Robert Fox, University of Hawaii, Hilo

PARTICIPANTS:

David T. Marshall, Auburn University
Thomas L. Humphries, Jr., Saint Leo University
Benjamin Scafidi, Kennesaw State University
Heidi Holmes Erickson, Kennesaw State University
Natalie Neugebauer, Auburn University

Understanding Charter School Leaders' Response to COVID-19 (**David Marshall**, Auburn University; **Natalie Neugebauer**, Auburn University)

The success of previously home-schooled students in college during pandemic transitions (**Thomas L. Humphries**, St. Leo University)

What to do about remedial services for students who are behind? (**Ben Scafid**i, Kennesaw State University; Heidi Erickson, Kennesaw State University)

DISCUSSANT:

Nina Buchman, University of Hawaii, Hilo

Session Two, 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM

Research in Classical Education

CHAIR:

Eric Wearne, Kennesaw State University

PARTICIPANTS:

David Goodwin, Association of Classical Christian Schools David Herndon, St. Augustine School Noah Tyler, Classic Learning Test

Four Generations of Classical Education in the Association of Classical Christian Schools (**David Goodwin**, Association of Classical Christian Schools)

Outcomes for University-Model® Schools Graduates (David Herndon, St. Augustine School)

Classic Learning Test: Assessment choice essential to school choice (**Noah Tyler**, Classic Learning Test)

DISCUSSANT:

Eric Wearne, Kennesaw State University

Endogenous Privatization in Public Education – Different Patterns in Post-Soviet Realm

CHAIR:

Kaire Põder, Estonian Business School

PARTICIPANTS:

Antonina Santalova, University of Oxford

Triin Lauri, Tallinn University and University of Konstanz

Daniel Alexandrov, Higher School of Economics (Russia)

Policies Towards Privatization in School Education. A comparative analysis of policy outcomes in the republics of Central Asia (**Antonina Santalova**, University of Oxford)

Problem of inequality without the politics of inequality? Public attitude toward education system in Estonia (**Triin Lauri**, Konstanz University)

Freedom of education and hidden privatization of schools in Russia (**Daniel Alexandrov**, Higher School of Economics, Russia)

DISCUSSANT:

Kaire Põder, Estonian Business School

A New (Virtual) Reality? Achievement, Socialization, And Public Opinion In Online Education

CHAIR:

Paul Peterson, Harvard University

PARTICIPANTS:

James Paul, University of Arkansas
Ian Kingsbury, Empire Center for Public Policy
Sheryl Tatum, K12 Inc.
Dennis Beck, University of Arkansas
Tom Clark, Clark Consulting
Robert Maranto, University of Arkansas
Bich Tran, University of Arkansas

Moving on Up? A Virtual School, Student Mobility, and Achievement (**James Paul**, University of Arkansas; Patrick Wolf, University of Arkansas)

Distance Learning: How do brick and mortar schools stack up to virtual schools? (Ian Kingsbury, Empire Center for Public Policy)

Exploring the Relationship Between Socialization and Student Achievement in Virtual Schools (Dennis Beck, University of Arkansas; Tom Clark, Clark Consulting; Robert Maranto, University of Arkansas; and **Bich Tran**, University of Arkansas)

DISCUSSANT:

Mark Berends, University of Notre Dame

Session Three, 12:45 - 1:45 PM

Contemporary Homeschooling Issues

CHAIR:

Matthew Lee, University of Arkansas

PARTICIPANTS:

Angela K. Dills, Western Carolina University
Brian D. Ray, National Home Education Research Institute
M. Danish Shakeel, Harvard University
Fred Worth, Henderson State University
Valerie Felder, Blinn Community College

Homeschooling and child abuse: Are kids safer at home? (**Angela Dills**, Western Carolina University)

Perceived Barriers to Homeschooling in a Fragile Community with a Focus on Black Families: What are the Actual Demographic Differences? (**Brian D. Ray,** NHERI; M. Danish Shakeel, Harvard University; Fred Worth, Henderson State University; Valerie Felder, Blinn Community College)

The Simplicities of Blacks Homeschooling (**Brian Ray**, National Home Education Research Institute)

DISCUSSANT:

Matthew Lee, University of Arkansas

Charter Schools: Innovation and Accountability

CHAIR:

Anna Egalite, North Carolina State University

PARTICIPANTS:

Martha Bradley-Dorsey, *University of Arkansas*Lifei Huang, *Harvard University*Jamison White, *National Alliance for Public Charter Schools*

The Possibility of Public School FTEs as the Overwhelming Predictor of Low Charter School Enrollment (Martha Bradley-Dorsey, University of Arkansas)

Innovation in Charter Schools: Do Larger Charter Sectors Have More Innovation (**Lifei Huang**, Harvard University; **Jamison White**, National Alliance for Public Charter Schools)

Beyond Test Scores: Charter School Performance through Multiple Measures of College Readiness (Justin Luu, UC Davis School of Education; Sherrie Reed, UC Davis School of Education; Scott Carrell, UC Davis Department of Economics)

DISCUSSANT:

Symposium: Private School Choice Program Administration: 2020 and Beyond

CHAIR:

Cara Candal (co-chair), *ExcelinEd* Tim Abram (co-chair), *ExcelinEd*

PARTICIPANTS:

Nathan Hoffman, *Empower IL* Gina Lynch, *Step Up for Students* Kathryn Marker, *North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority*

The goal of this panel is to present and discuss data describing how the pandemic affected the administration of private school choice programs and what administrators think we can learn from the experience.

DISCUSSANT:

Cara Candal, ExcelinEd

Session Four, 2:00 - 3:00 PM

COVID-19 and Other Emerging Issues in School Choice in the United States

CHAIR:

Michael Shaw, EdChoice

PARTICIPANTS:

Michael Shaw, EdChoice Paul DiPerna, EdChoice Martin F. Lueken, EdChoice Michael Q. McShane, EdChoice Andrew D. Catt, EdChoice

Mind the Gap: Funding Disparities Between Private School Choice Programs and Public Schools (Martin F. Lueken, EdChoice)

Polling American K–12 School Parents and Teachers About COVID-19 (Paul DiPerna, **Andrew D. Catt**, and Michael Shaw, EdChoice)

Polling the American Public and K–12 School Parents About Homeschooling (**Paul DiPerna**, Andrew D. Catt, and Michael Shaw, EdChoice)

Lessons from Cool Schools (Michael Q. McShane, EdChoice)

The Disinformation Campaign Against Homeschooling

CHAIR:

Patrick J. Wolf, University of Arkansas

PARTICIPANTS:

Corey DeAngelis, Reason Foundation Kerry McDonald, Foundation for Economic Education Mike Donnelly, Home School Legal Defense Association Brian Ray, National Home Education Research Institute

The State of the Evidence on Homeschooling (**Brian Ray**, National Home Education Research Institute)

The Risks of Government Schooling (Corey DeAngelis, Reason Foundation)

Professor Bartholet Wrong on International Law (Mike Donnelly, Home School Legal Defense Association)

Preserving Family Freedom from Government Overreach (**Kerry McDonald**, Foundation for Economic Education)

DISCUSSANT:

Patrick J. Wolf, University of Arkansas

School Choice: Objections, Responsibilities, and Family Experiences

CHAIR:

Carolyn D. Herrington, Florida State University

PARTICIPANTS:

Charles L. Glenn, *Boston University*Asher Moaz, *Dean Peres Academic Center Law School* **Andrew D. Catt,** *EdChoice*

Contradictory Objections to School Choice (Charles L. Glenn, Boston University)

Religious Education – Between Parental Choice and State Duty (**Asher Moaz**, Dean Peres Academic Center Law School)

Families' Experiences in the Old North State: Findings from a Survey of K-12 Parents in North Carolina (**Andrew D. Catt**, EdChoice)

DISCUSSANT:

Carolyn D. Herrington, Florida State University

Live Keynote, 4:00 - 5:00 PM

Hybrid Homeschooling

MODERATOR:

Angela Watson, Johns Hopkins University

PRESENTERS:

Eric Wearne, Kennesaw State University Michael Q. McShane, EdChoice

This event will be structured as an interview with the two authors. A prominent homeschooling researcher will be the interviewer.

Live Reception, 5:00 – 6:00 PM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2021

Session Five, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

The Frontier of Educational Choice: Lessons from Arizona

CHAIR:

Jason Bedrick, EdChoice

PARTICIPANTS:

Jenny Clark, Love Your School Sarah Raybon, Arizona School Tuition Organization Association Kayla Svedin, Empowered Arizona Families Jeremiah Cota, San Carlos Microschool

Empowering Families with Scholarships and More: Tax Credits & Scholarship Organizations (Sarah Raybon, Arizona School Tuition Organization Association)

Empowering Families with New Learning Options: Microschooling (**Jeremiah Cota**, San Carlos Microschool)

Empowering Families with Information (Jenny Clark, Love Your School)

Empowering Families with a Voice (Kayla Svedin, Empowered Arizona Families)

Symposium: Centrally Planned Schooling is Price-less

CHAIR:

John Merrifield, Institute for Objective Policy Assessment

PARTICIPANTS:

Corey DeAngelis, Reason Foundation Lindsey Burke, The Heritage Foundation Lance Izumi, Pacific Research Institute

Most of the world's industries resolve what is produced, how, where, and for whom through 'decentralized planning' orchestrated by price levels and price changes that reflect scarcity. But virtually all of the world's well-studied K-12 school systems are 'price-less.' The chair will describe the big picture. The other panelists will use their research findings to address the challenges moving forward.

Symposium: Fifty years of school choice: Analysis from four intertemporal nationally representative datasets (Virtual Room Three)

CHAIR:

Albert Chang, Institute for Objective Policy Assessment

PARTICIPANTS:

M. Danish Shakeel, Harvard University Paul E. Peterson, Harvard University

This symposium comprises three studies that analyze over fifty years of student achievement data on approximately nine million students at ages nine, fourteen and seventeen.

DISCUSSANT:

Albert Chang, Institute for Objective Policy Assessment

Session Six, 11:15 – 12:15 PM

Magnet Schools, Special Education, and Pandemic Policy (Virtual Room One)

CHAIR:

James Paul, University of Arkansas

PARTICIPANTS:

Carolyn D. Herrington, Florida State University
Albert Cheng, University of Arkansas
Emily Coady, University of Arkansas
Jia Wang, UCLA CRESST
Joan Herman, UCLA CRESST

Choice, the Pandemic and Intergovernmental Tensions in Florida Educational Reform (**Carolyn D. Herrington**, Florida State University)

An Evaluation of Florida's McKay and Gardiner Scholarship Programs (Albert Cheng, University of Arkansas; **Emily Coady**, University of Arkansas)

Ten Years of Studying Magnet Schools (Jia Wang, UCLA CRESST; Joan Herman, UCLA CRESST)

DISCUSSANT:

James Paul, University of Arkansas

Research on Homeschoolers and Homeschooling (Virtual Room Two)

CHAIR:

Angela R. Watson, *Johns Hopkins Institute for Education Policy*

PARTICIPANTS:

Brian D. Ray, National Home Education Research Institute
Angelica Pineda Franky, Family 21 Foundation and Clonlara School
Daniel Hamlin, University of Oklahoma
Albert Cheng, University of Arkansas

Homeschooling: A Systematic Review of the Empirical Research on Selected Aspects of Homeschooling as a School Choice (**Brian D. Ray**, National Home Education Research Institute)

The Emotional Dimension and Chapter of Home Education (**Angelica Pineda Franky**, Family 21 Foundation and Clonlara School.)

Making sense of education's most complex subgroup: A taxonomy of homeschoolers based on nationally representative data (**Daniel Hamlin**, University of Oklahoma; Albert Cheng, University of Arkansas)

DISCUSSANT:

Angela R. Watson, Johns Hopkins Institute for Education Policy

School Choice in International Contexts (Virtual Room Three)

CHAIR:

Robert Maranto, University of Arkansas

PARTICIPANTS:

Sílvia Cópio, Movimento Educação Livre, Portugal

Sandra Haugas, Think Tank Praxis

Triin Lauri, Tallinn University and University of Konstanz

Karin van Oostrum, Pestalozzi Trust Legal Defence Fund for Home and Civil Education, South Africa

Home education and freedom of parents to choose their kids' education – Political and legal movements in European countries. What is happening nowadays? (Sílvia Cópio, Movimento Educação Livre, Portugal)

Continuity in school choice policy: The politics of non-decision-making in Tallinn (**Sandra Haugas**, Think Tank Praxis; **Triin Lauri**, University of Oxford and Tallinn University)

Cottage Schools and Learning Centres in South Africa: A Case of Fleeing and Flocking? (Karin van Oostrum, Pestalozzi Trust Legal Defence Fund for Home and Civil Education, South America)

DISCUSSANT:

Robert Maranto, *University of Arkansas*

Lunch Break, 12:15 – 12:45 PM

Session Seven, 12:45 – 1:45 PM

Systemic Effects of School Choice

CHAIR:

Andrew D. Catt, EdChoice

PARTICIPANTS:

Anna J. Egalite, North Carolina State University
Jonathan N. Mills, University of Arkansas
Emily Antoszyk, North Carolina State University
James Paul, University of Arkansas
Martin F. Lueken, EdChoice
Christian Buerger, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis
John Singleton, University of Rochester
Josefina Senese, University of Notre Dame

The Systemic Effect of Private School Choice in North Carolina (**Anna J. Egalite**, North Carolina State University; Jonathan N. Mills, University of Arkansas; Emily Antoszyk, North Carolina State University; James Paul, University of Arkansas)

Effects of School Choice on Housing Values and Residential Sorting in Indianapolis (Christian Buerger, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis; Martin F. Lueken, EdChoice; John Singleton, University of Rochester)

School Competition in Chilean Rural Contexts: Market Dynamics and Student Achievement (**Josephina Senese**, University of Notre Dame)

DISCUSSANT:

TBD

School Choice Myths: Setting the Record Straight on Education Freedom

CHAIR:

Corey A. DeAngelis, Reason Foundation

PARTICIPANTS:

Neal McCluskey, Cato Institute
Lindsey Burke, Heritage Foundation
John Merrifield, Institute for Objective Policy Assessment
Matthew Ladner, Arizona Charter Schools Association
Patrick Wolf, University of Arkansas

Myth: School Choice Balkanizes (Neal McCluskey, Cato Institute)

Myth: Public Schools are Necessary for a Stable Democracy (Patrick Wolf, University of Arkansas)

Myth: School Choice Harms Children Left Behind in Public Schools (Matthew Ladner, Arizona Charter Schools Association)

Myth: School Choice Needs Regulation to Ensure Access and Quality (**Lindsey Burke**, Heritage Foundation; Jason Bedrick, EdChoice)

Myth: Any School Choice is Welcome School Choice (**John Merrified**, University of Texas at San Antonio)

DISCUSSANT:

Corey A. DeAngelis, Reason Foundation

Critical Conversation Session: Ensuring Student Interest and Success in the Online Environment of Today

CHAIR:

Priscilla Bamba, Grand Canyon University

PARTICIPANTS:

TBD

Session Eight, 2:00 – 3:00 PM

Private schools and Covid-19

CHAIR:

Jonathan N Mills, University of Arkansas

PARTICIPANTS:

Matthew Lee, University of Arkansas

Albert Cheng, University of Arkansas Katie Wiens, Council of Educational Standards and Accountability Neal McCluskey, Cato Institute

The Preparation and Priorities of Private School Leaders (**Matthew Lee**, University of Arkansas; Albert Cheng, University of Arkansas; Katie Wiens, Council of Educational Standards and Accountability)

The COVID-19 Effect on Private Schools (Neal McCluskey, Cato Institute)

DISCUSSANT:

Jonathan N Mills, University of Arkansas

LIVE Symposium: Fifty years of performance levels of U.S. students: Analysis from nationally representative datasets

CHAIR:

Jonathan N Mills, University of Arkansas

PARTICIPANTS:

M. Danish Shakeel, Harvard University
Paul E. Peterson, Harvard University

This symposium consists of three large-scale studies that combine all available restricted use student achievement data from Main NAEP, LTT NAEP, TIMSS and PISA for over fifty years.

Populism and School Choice

CHAIR:

M. Danish Shakeel, Harvard University

PARTICIPANTS:

Benjamin Scaffidi, Kennesaw State University
Eric Wearne, Kennesaw State University
Angela R. Watson, Johns Hopkins Institute for Education
Jeremy Singer, Wayne State University
Robert Maranto, University of Arkansas
M. Danish Shakeel, Harvard University
Paul E. Peterson, Harvard University

Populist Support for Choice in K-12 Education (**Benjamin Scafidi**, Kennesaw State University; Eric Wearne, Kennesaw State University)

Homeschool: A Populist Power Move? (Angela Watson, Johns Hopkins Institute for Education)

Power to the People? Populism, Neoliberalism, and the Politics of School Choice in the United States (**Jeremy Singer**, Wayne State University)

Between Elites and "the People": Applying Elitism, Populism, and Pluralism to Schooling and Homeschooling (**Robert Maranto**, University of Arkansas)

Populism and American education policy: Evidence from a nationally representative poll (M. Danish Shakeel, Harvard University; Paul E. Peterson, Harvard University)

DISCUSSANT:

Jay Greene, *University of Arkansas*

Live Q&A with the Day's Presenters, 3:00 - 3:45 PM

Discussion in separate breakout rooms

MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 2021

Session Nine, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

Education Savings Account Meet their Moment: Growth, Uses, and New Applications

CHAIR:

Martin F. Lueken, EdChoice

PARTICIPANTS:

Michelle Lofton, University of Georgia Lindsey Burke, The Heritage Foundation Jonathan Butcher, The Heritage Foundation Kayla Svedin, Empowered Arizona Families

How Florida Families Use Their Education Savings Accounts (**Michelle Lofton**, University of Georgia; Martin F. Lueken, EdChoice; Lindsey Burke, The Heritage Foundation)

Account Usage of North Carolina's Education Savings Accounts (**Jonathan Butcher**, The Heritage Foundation; Lindsey Burke, The Heritage Foundation)

A Comparative Analysis of State ESA Programs (**Lindsey Burke**, The Heritage Foundation; Jonathan Butcher, The Heritage Foundation)

Pandemic Pods and Parent Power: New applications of ESAs (**Kayla Svedin**, Empowered Arizona Families)

DISCUSSANTS:

Matthew Ladner, Arizona Charter Schools Association Martin West, Harvard University

Virtual Learning

CHAIR:

Benjamin Scafidi, Kennesaw State University

PARTICIPANTS:

Ian Kingsbury, Empire Center for Public Policy Sheryl Tatum, K-12 Inc Robert Maranto, University of Arkansas Dennis Beck, University of Arkansas Bich Tran, University of Arkansas

Distance Learning: How do brick and mortar schools stack up to virtual schools? (Ian Kingsbury, Empire Center for Public Policy; Sheryl Tatum, K-12 Inc)

Coming and Going: Comparing Special Education and General Education Students in Cyber Schools (**Robert Maranto**, University of Arkansas; Dennis Beck, University of Arkansas; Bich Tan, University of Arkansas)

DISCUSSANTS:

Benjamin Scafidi, Kennesaw State University

Symposium: Charter Laws: Disaster, Detour, Irrelevant, or Reform Tool?

CHAIR:

John Merrifield, Institute for Objective Policy Assessment

PARTICIPANTS:

Robert Maranto, University of Arkansas M. Danish Shakeel, Harvard University Nat Malkus, American Enterprise Institute Scott Milliman, James Madison University

The goal of this session is to ponder the past and future role of charter law as a source of 'school choice' and as a school system reform catalyst.

Session 10, 11:15 AM – 12:15 PM

Symposium: The Cardus Education Survey Australia: Australian Schools and the Common Good

CHAIR:

Daniel Hamlin, University of Oklahoma

PARTICIPANTS:

Daniel Hamlin, *University of Oklahoma* **Albert Cheng**, *University of Arkansas* **Jill Willis**, *Queensland University of Technology*

Lynn Swaner, Association of Christian Schools International David Hunt, Cardus Education

This session will feature a discussion of the Australian education system. Findings from the Cardus Education Survey Australia Report will then be shared and a diverse panel of discussants will offer their commentary on the report. These include a policy analyst, an Australian academic, an Australian school association leader, and an international Christian school association leader.

Schooling in the COVID-19 World and Beyond

CHAIR:

David T. Marshall (co-chair), Auburn University
Martha Bradley-Dorsey (co-chair), University of Arkansas

PARTICIPANTS:

Dick M. Carpenter II, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs Joshua M. Dunn, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs Rodrigo Queiroz e Melo, Universidade Católica Portuguesa Charles L. Glenn, Boston University

We're All Teachers Now: Remote Learning During COVID-19 (**Dick M. Carpenter II**, University of Colorado; Joshua M. Dunn, University of Colorado)

Reopening America's Schools: A descriptive look at states and large school districts in Fall 2020 (**David T. Marshall,** Auburn University; Martha Bradley-Dorsey, University of Arkansas)

Comparative School Closings and Reopenings under COVID-19 (Rodrigo Queiroz e Melo, Universidade Católica Portuguesa; **Robert A. Maranto**, University of Arkansas; Charles L. Glenn, Boston University)

DISCUSSANTS:

Robert Maranto, University of Arkansas

Critical Conversation Session: California Authorizing 2.0: Advancing Equity and Access Through Quality Authorizing

CHAIR:

TBD

PARTICIPANTS:

David Patterson, California Charter Authorizing Professionals **Tom Hutton,** California Authorizing Professionals

The purpose of this session is to examine and discuss the research and policy basis for California Charter Authorizing Professionals' (CCAP) new approach to charter school authorizing, California Authorizing 2.0 (CA2.0), as presented in the white paper California Authorizing 2.0: Advancing Equity and Access Through Quality Authorizing.

Lunch Break, 12:15 – 12:45 PM

Session Eleven, 12:45 – 1:45 PM

Lunchtime Keynote: Religion in/and Education: Human Rights and Education Law Challenges

PRESENTERS:

Jan de Groof, College of Europe, Bruges, Belgium

"When both religion and education meet in the public and the private domains, the whole society is at stake," says Prof. de Groof, who has developed a legal reasoning placing education at the highest level in the hierarchy of human rights.

Session Twelve, 2:00 – 3:00 PM

Methods for Informing Parents About School Choice

CHAIR:

John Schilling, American Federation for Children

PARTICIPANTS:

TBD

This panel will assess ongoing school choice communication threats, analyze best messaging strategies, and provide tactical communications tips and advice for attendees to use in their work.

DISCUSSANTS:

TBD

Live Q&A with the Day's Presenters, 3:00 - 3:45 PM

Discussion in separate breakout rooms