(Re)imagining a Recovery Agenda: Leveraging the Science of Learning for Youth Success

Wednesday, January 25, 2023
9am-1pm
Neuberger Berman (1290 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10104)

Welcoming Remarks
Alison Overseth, CEO, Partnership for After School Education (PASE)
Dr. Lester W. Young, Jr, Chancellor And Member-at-Large, New York State Board of Regents
Dr. James F. Lane, Senior Advisor, U.S. Department of Education

Research Panel
Dr. Pamela Cantor, M.D., Founder and Senior Science Advisor, Turnaround for Children
Dr. Edward Fergus, Professor of Urban Education and Policy, Rutgers University
Moderator: Dr. Jane Quinn

Practice Panel
Christopher Caruso, Managing Director of School Age Children, Robin Hood Foundation
Carry Chan-Howard, Community Superintendent of District 1, New York City Department of Education
Sandra Escamilla, Executive Vice President, Children’s Aid
Moderator: Fatima Shama, Head of Diversity & Inclusion, Americas, Bloomberg LP

Table Discussions

Closing Remarks

Acknowledgements

Many thanks to the wonderful planning committee for this event:
Dr. Edward Fergus, Dr. Jane Quinn, and Elizabeth Reisner.

Much gratitude also to Neuberger Berman for hosting this gathering.
About this Symposium

COVID has left a devastating impact on the education and development of young people across New York City and the nation. A recovery agenda must expand beyond current responses to learning loss and more fully encompass the comprehensive needs of youth.

Thank you for joining us for this conversation about how we can collaborate across sectors to reimagine an equitable recovery process that centers youth success.

About Partnership for After School Education

The Partnership for After School Education (PASE) is a child-focused organization that promotes and supports quality afterschool programs, particularly those serving young people from underserved communities.

Speakers: Welcoming Remarks

Alison Overseth
CEO, Partnership for After School Education

Alison Overseth is the Chief Executive Officer of the Partnership for After School Education (PASE), a nonprofit which works with hundreds of community based organizations, higher education institutions, and corporate partners to improve the quality of opportunities available to young people living in poverty in New York City. With over 30 years of experience in the youth serving profession, Ms. Overseth directed a management initiative for the Fund for the City of New York to strengthen the non-profit agencies that provide community support for young people, and served as the founding President of the Board of Directors of PASE for 12 years. Ms. Overseth serves as the Chair of the Board of Trustees of Smith College; is on the Advisory Board of The Tamer Center for Social Enterprise at Columbia Business School; has taught leadership courses at Bank Street College of Education; and is a Trustee of the FDR Presidential Library and Museum. Ms. Overseth was a Director at The First Boston Corporation, specializing in corporate restructurings, from 1984-1992. Ms. Overseth is a graduate of Smith College and Columbia Business School.
Lester W. Young, Jr. is serving his fourth term as Regent At Large, The University of the State of New York. In January 2021, Dr. Young was unanimously elected by his peers to be Chancellor. Dr. Young has made creating opportunities “where every student can be successful” the guiding principle of his more than 50 years of public service. A career educator, Dr. Young served as a teacher, guidance counselor, supervisor of special education, principal, Associate Commissioner with the New York State Education Department, and Superintendent of Community School District 13. He also led the first NYC Office of Youth Development and School Community Services. A recognized educational leader and innovator, he was responsible for establishing some of the more successful high schools and middle schools in New York City and reproducing the nationally recognized Algebra Project and Comer School Development Program. Dr. Young's commitment to helping improve outcomes for boys and young men of color led to the establishment of the NYS My Brother's Keeper initiative and under the leadership of the NYS Legislature, New York State remains the only state in the nation to have the My Brother's Keeper initiative enacted into NYS law.

Continuing his commitment to public service, in 2014 Dr. Young was appointed to the New York State Juvenile Justice Advisory Group. He is a founding member and Trustee of the Adelaide L. Sanford Institute; a Trustee for the Brooklyn Navy Yard and co-chairs the Community Advisory Council for Boys and Girls High School. He is a Life Member of the National Alliance of Black School Educators and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. He has also served on the advisory boards for Eagle Academy High School and the New York Office of the Children's Defense Fund, the Brooklyn Children's Museum and the Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation. Dr. Young volunteers as a mentor to principals and aspiring leaders throughout New York City. He has been recognized by many local, national education and civic education organizations for his professional contributions.

Dr. James F. Lane
Senior Advisor, U.S. Department of Education

Dr. James Lane most recently served as Virginia's 25th Superintendent of Public Instruction, a position appointed by the Governor of Virginia. Prior to this appointment, Dr. Lane was a division superintendent in three school divisions in Virginia (Chesterfield, Goochland, and Middlesex Counties).

Throughout his career, he has served as an Assistant Superintendent, Principal, and Assistant Principal after beginning his career as a Teacher/Band Director.

He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina State University, and the University of Virginia.
Speakers: Research Panel

Dr. Pamela Cantor, M.D.
Founder and Senior Science Advisor, Turnaround for Children

Dr. Pamela Cantor, M.D. is a physician, author, and thought leader on human potential, the science of learning and development, and educational equity. Dr. Cantor practiced child and adolescent psychiatry for nearly two decades, specializing in trauma. In the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks, she founded Turnaround for Children, which translates scientific insights into tools and services that help educators establish the conditions for all students to thrive. In two books published in 2021, Whole-Child Development, Learning and Thriving: A Dynamic Systems Approach and The Science of Learning and Development, Dr. Cantor crystallizes key scientific concepts about how human potential and learning unfold so that anyone seeking to open pathways for learning and opportunity for young people can do so. She is a featured contributor to Edutopia’s How Learning Happens series, which has been viewed more than 15 million times. Dr. Cantor is a governing partner of the Science of Learning and Development Alliance, a member of the Brookings Institution’s Task Force on Next Generation Community Schools, and a Commissioner of the Learning 2025 Commission of the American Association of School Superintendents. She received an M.D. from Cornell University, a B.A. from Sarah Lawrence College, and was a Visiting Scholar at the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Dr. Jane Quinn, Moderator

Jane Quinn is a social worker and youth worker with over five decades of professional experience, including direct service with children and families, program development, fundraising, grantmaking, research, and advocacy. From 2000 through 2018, she served as the Vice President for Community Schools at Children’s Aid, where she directed the National Center for Community Schools. Prior to that, she served as Program Director for the DeWitt Wallace-Reader’s Digest Fund; directed a national study of youth organizations for the Carnegie Corporation of New York; and served as Program Director for Girls Clubs of America. She was the principal author of the 1992 Carnegie study entitled A Matter of Time: Risk and Opportunity in the Nonschool Hours and the co-author of three books on community schools, including the forthcoming (Spring 2023) Community Schools Revolution. Jane has a master’s in social work from the University of Chicago and a doctorate in urban education from the City University of New York.
Dr. Edward Fergus
Professor of Urban Education and Policy, Rutgers University

Dr. Edward Fergus is a Professor of Urban Education and Policy at Rutgers University.

Dr. Fergus was previously an Associate Professor of Urban Education and Policy at Temple University and Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership and Policy at New York University. He is a former high school social studies teacher, program evaluator, and community school program director. Dr. Fergus’ work is on the intersection of educational policy and outcomes with a specific focus on Black and Latino boys’ academic and social engagement outcomes, disproportionality in special education and suspensions, and school climate conditions. He has published more than four dozen articles, book chapters, evaluation reports, and five books including *Skin Color and Identity Formation: Perceptions of Opportunity and Academic Orientation among Mexican and Puerto Rican Youth* (Routledge Press, 2004), co-editor of *Invisible No More: Disenfranchisement of Latino Men and Boys* (Routledge Press, 2011), co-author of *Schooling For Resilience: Improving Trajectory of Black and Latino boys* (Harvard Education Press, 2014), author of *Solving Disproportionality and Achieving Equity* (Corwin Press, 2016), co-editor of forthcoming book *Boyhood and Masculinity Construction in the US* (Routledge Press, forthcoming), and *Unpacking the Cultural Shopping Cart: The Cross-Cultural Lives to Challenge School Segregation* (Corwin, forthcoming). Fergus has worked with over 120 school districts since 2004 on educational equity and school reform, specifically addressing disproportionality in special education and suspension. Fergus partners with state education departments such as California (2010-2017), Maryland (2016 – present), Connecticut (2021-present), North Carolina (2021 – present), and Texas (2012 – present) and serves on various boards such as NY State Governor’s Juvenile Justice Advisory Group (2010-present), appointed in 2011 to the Yonkers Public Schools Board of Education (2011-2013 and 2019-2021), National Center on Learning Disabilities (2020-present), and is an expert consultant for the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division on Educational Opportunities (2014-2016), New York State Attorney General's Office (2022), and NAACP Legal Defense Fund (2018).

Dr. Fergus received a bachelor's degree in Political Science and Education from Beloit College and a doctorate in Educational Policy and Social Foundations from the University of Michigan.
Speakers: Practice Panel

Christopher Caruso
Managing Director of School Age Children, Robin Hood Foundation

Christopher Caruso is focused on advancing equity and improving educational outcomes. He is currently Managing Director for School Age Children at Robin Hood, leading the foundation’s work in education. Prior, Chris was Senior Executive Director of the NYC Department of Education’s Office of Community Schools where he oversaw support for students experiencing homelessness and built a citywide system of 300 community schools integrating academics, health, and social services. Independent research found that these schools improved academic and social outcomes. Earlier in his career he held leadership positions at ExpandED Schools, the NYC Department of Youth and Community Development, and Children’s Aid. Chris has degrees from Providence College and Columbia University and is an alumnus of the Annie Casey Foundation’s Children & Families Fellowship.

Carry Chan-Howard
Community Superintendent of District 1
New York City Department of Education

Carry Chan-Howard has been the Community Superintendent of District 1 since 2017. She started as a teacher in Brooklyn and was inspired to become a school leader. During her tenure as an assistant principal, she was accepted to the Leadership Academy. She had the opportunity to open a new public middle school, The School for Global Leaders in the lower east side of Manhattan, in District 1. Carry was also born and raised in the lower east side and is deeply invested in the community.

Sandra Escamilla
Executive Vice President, Children’s Aid

Sandra Escamilla, a social worker, has worked in the field of youth development and education for over 25 years. In her current role as the Executive Vice President at Children’s Aid she supports the VPs of Early Childhood, Youth, Education/Head of School and the National Center of Community Schools to deliver high quality holistic services and strategies in community schools and centers that enable children, youth and families to succeed and thrive from cradle to college and career.

Sandra has held various leadership positions in NYC including as the Executive Director of the Youth Development Institute (YDI). While at YDI, she led the agency’s work in school reform and technical assistance to local and national Beacons. A hallmark of her work is the partnerships she has cultivated with various NYC agencies to infuse youth development principles and practices into their everyday work through model development, training and coaching of senior leaders.

Sandra founded her own consultant firm, PUSH NYC where she provides executive coaching to local and national leaders throughout the country with a focus on DEIB. She received her Masters of Science in Social Work from Columbia University and her B.A. from Hunter College where she instructed a course on mentorship.
Speakers: Practice Panel

Fatima Shama, Moderator
Head of Diversity & Inclusion, Americas, Bloomberg LP

Fatima Shama serves as Bloomberg's Head of Diversity & Inclusion, Americas. Fatima is responsible for driving Bloomberg's diversity and inclusion strategy across the Americas.

Previously, Ms. Shama was the CEO/executive director of The Fresh Air Fund, the over 140 year-old nonprofit agency that provides free summer experiences for New York City children from low-income communities through summer camps and a host families program in rural and suburban communities across 13 states, and provides year-round academic enrichment and support both at camp and in New York City.

Ms. Shama served in Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg's administration as the commissioner of the NYC Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs from 2009 through 2013. From 2007 through 2009, she served as the Mayor's senior education policy advisor, and in 2006 when Ms. Shama joined Mayor Bloomberg's office she worked on a special initiative on the intersection between health care, language access and literacy.

Ms. Shama serves as a Trustee on the boards of the National Summer Learning Association, the Pinkerton Foundation, the New York Immigration Coalition, and Coro Leadership New York.

Thank you to our PASE Program Committee.

The idea for this Symposium emerged out of a PASE Program Committee meeting in Fall 2022. Thank you to this wonderful group for their support of PASE's work and the overall afterschool field:

- Janelle Bradshaw*, Public Prep Network
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- Wayne Ho*, Chinese-American Planning Council
- Sam Intrator, Smith College
- Fern Khan*, Bank Street College of Education (retired)
- Greg McCaslin*, Arts & Education Consultant
- Aisha Norris, DREAM! Dare to Revitalize Education thru Arts & Mediation
- Dr. Jane Quinn, Children’s Aid (retired)
- Elizabeth Reisner, Policy Studies Associates (retired)
- Davon Russell, WHEDco

* PASE Board Member