

Making Connections: Leading School Improvement

Tuesday, December 8, 2015
Filming 3:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m. Eastern Time
Cleveland, Ohio

Draft Agenda

Moderator: **Taishya Adams**, Senior Technical Consultant, American Institutes for Research (AIR)

Panelists: **Kerstin Le Floch**, Ph.D., Managing Researcher, AIR
Carlas McCauley, Ed.D., Director, Center on School Turnaround
Melissa Watts, Principal, Robinson G. Jones Elementary School

- 3:00 p.m.–3:05 p.m. **Event Overview**
Ms. Adams will introduce Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Midwest and its School Turnaround Research Alliance. The alliance seeks to build capacity among state education agencies to identify and address school turnaround challenges related to policy and practice through regional research, technical assistance, and dissemination projects. Ms. Adams will explain the alliance’s intention to research school leadership in turnaround contexts. She also will introduce the panelists.
- 3:05 p.m.–3:21 p.m. **What Makes an Effective School Turnaround Leader?**
All panelists will discuss leadership’s role in school improvement in turnaround contexts and the qualities and competencies of effective turnaround leaders. They also will draw from current research to discuss considerations under district and state control—such as personnel policy, budgets, and assessments—that affect turnaround leaders’ success.
- 3:21 p.m.–3:37 p.m. **Robinson G. Jones Elementary School**
The principal of a turnaround school in Cleveland, Ohio, will share the example of her school’s turnaround efforts. All panelists will examine the principal’s role in the school improvement process and will draw connections with national and local trends and current research.
- 3:37 p.m.–3:53 p.m. **What Supports Exist for School Turnaround Leaders?**
All panelists will present tools and policies designed to support turnaround leaders, including a recently released professional learning module on turnaround leader competencies developed by the Center on School

Turnaround, the Center on Great Teachers and Leaders, Public Impact, and the University of Virginia Darden/Curry Partnership. The panelists will connect these tools and policies to practical implementation in actual turnaround schools.

3:53 p.m.–3:55 p.m.

Concluding Remarks

Ms. Adams will briefly review the topics discussed during the program, mention resources to consult for additional information, and thank audience members and viewers for their attendance and participation.