PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

Katy Anthes
Executive Director of Educator Effectiveness
Colorado Department of Education

Katy Anthes, Ph.D. CDE’s executive director of educator effectiveness leads CDE’s efforts to prepare, evaluate, support and retain highly effective educators in Colorado. Ms. Anthes is responsible for ensuring the successful implementation of the state’s educator evaluation and development system, pursuant to Senate Bill 10-191. In her past position as a partner with the Third Mile Group, Anthes led and researched major education initiatives for state, district and national organizations on education issues. Anthes also occasionally teaches master’s level courses in public administration at the University of Colorado, Denver. She has seven years of research and policy work at the Education Commission of the States and holds a Ph.D. in public policy and master’s degree in public affairs from the University of Colorado, Denver. She did her undergraduate work at the University of Oregon.

Linda Darling-Hammond
Faculty Director
Stanford Center for Opportunity

Linda Darling-Hammond is currently Charles E. Ducommun professor of education at Stanford University, where she founded the Stanford Center for Opportunity Policy in Education, which conducts research and policy analysis on issues affecting educational equity and opportunity, including curriculum, assessment, and teaching policy and practices. She also founded the School Redesign Network and the Stanford Educational Leadership Institute, and served as the faculty sponsor of the Stanford Teacher Education Program, which she helped to redesign.

Darling-Hammond has conducted research on a wide range of policy issues affecting teaching and schooling and has advised policymakers and practitioners at all levels of government. From 1994–2001, she was executive director of the National Commission on Teaching and America’s Future, whose 1996 report, What Matters Most: Teaching for America’s Future, led to sweeping policy changes affecting teaching and schooling and was named one of the most influential reports affecting U.S. education. In 2006, Darling-Hammond was named one of the nation’s ten most influential people affecting educational policy over the past decade, and in 2008, she served as the leader of President Barack Obama’s education policy transition team.

Darling-Hammond is past president of the American Educational Research Association, a two-term member of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, and a member of the American Association of Arts and Sciences, as well as the National Academy of Education.
Rebecca Holmes is Associate Commissioner of Innovation, Choice, and Engagement at the Colorado Department of Education. Rebecca's work leading Next Generation Learning initiatives includes identifying areas for innovation aimed at preparing students for learning, work, and life in the 21st century while also supporting systems-level innovation activities at the district and state levels. This work has garnered national and international attention for Colorado’s state education agency. Additionally, she oversees the state’s work in postsecondary readiness, dropout prevention, student engagement, health and wellness, and adult education. Rebecca has over fifteen years of experience in education and business. Prior to joining CDE in 2013, Rebecca was the CEO of KIPP Colorado Schools, a network of public charter schools serving over 90% low-income students. At KIPP Colorado, she was responsible for more than tripling the size of the organization and leading the schools to record levels of student achievement. Rebecca began her career teaching middle school in Denver and has gone on to volunteer with and serve on the boards of several local organizations and foundations. She also has private sector experience as a senior consultant with Deloitte Consulting, where she worked with a variety of clients on change management, talent strategies, and organization design. She graduated from Manual High School in Denver, holds a bachelor's degree from Yale University and an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School.

Tony Lewis has been executive director of the Donnell-Kay Foundation for more than a decade. During that time, he has helped push for innovative and high performing schools, introduced healthy food for students, and worked to reform the state’s school finance system. Prior to the Donnell-Kay Foundation, he was Director of Capital Planning and Director of Development with the Colorado Outward Bound School, an experience he says shaped his approach to the world.

Tony sits on a number of boards and advisory boards, including the Governor-appointed Charter School Institute board, the University of Colorado at Denver’s School of Public Affairs, dZi Foundation, Education Cities, and America Succeeds.

Tony also has a passion for science and the environment; Tony has served as a program specialist for the Environmental Protection Agency in San Francisco, where he was in charge of policy, planning, and implementation of wetland regulations in the Central Valley and northern California. He earned his B.S. in forest management science from Colorado State University and holds a master’s degree in international studies from the University of Denver.

A Colorado native, Tony lives south of Lyons, Colorado with his family, honeybees, and chickens. He's a climber at heart and leads a couple foreign excursions a year, along with his personal ice, rock and mountain climbing trips.
Dr. Monica Martinez is an education strategist and consultant for philanthropy and non-profits, Senior Scholar to the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and appointee to the White House Commission of Educational Excellence for Hispanics. As an education strategist, Monica works with philanthropy, nonprofits, states, districts and schools to help them establish or codify strategic priorities and develop plans for their implementation; create, assist in the roll-out of initiatives and provides ongoing management or short term execution; and shape or assess an organization’s initiative. Her book, Deeper Learning: How Eight Public Innovative Schools are Transforming Education in the 21st Century was released June, 2014 and has received positive reviews. In January, 2015, Martinez released an implementation tool based on the book: Deeper Learning: The Planning Guide. Prior to this work, Martinez served as the President of the New Tech Network, a network of over 130 schools that engage in project based learning that integrates technology and the Vice President of the KnowledgeWorks Foundation. Martinez is an international and national speaker on the topics of deeper learning, education innovation and reform, college readiness, and the future of learning. She served on the Board of Trustees for AdvancED, an international accrediting agency, and currently serves on the Board of Directors for 10,000 Degrees, a college access and success intermediary in California.