

# University of Connecticut Neag School of Education

Faculty & District Partner  
Engagement in EdPrepLab

February 25, 2022

# UCONN Team Introductions

## Our Partners

### **Bonnie Fineman**

Director of Arts and Humanities, Windsor Public Schools (CT)

### **Nicole Sanders, Ed.D.**

Senior Equity and Talent Officer, Consolidated School District of New Britain (CT)

### **Robert Testa**

Assistant Superintendent, Vernon Public Schools (CT)

### **Anastasia Difedele-Dutton, Ed.D.**

Assistant Director of Professional Learning, Hartford Public Schools (CT)

# UConn Faculty

## **Michele Femc-Bagwell, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor in Residence, Director of Teacher Education, [michele.femc-bagwell@uconn.edu](mailto:michele.femc-bagwell@uconn.edu)

## **Tom Levine, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor, Curriculum and Instruction, [thomas.levine@uconn.edu](mailto:thomas.levine@uconn.edu)

## **Niralee Patel-Lye, Ed.D.**

Assistant Clinical Professor, Associate Director of Teacher Education, TCPCG (Teacher Certification Program for College Graduates), [niralee.patel-lye@uconn.edu](mailto:niralee.patel-lye@uconn.edu)

## **Mike Young, Ph.D**

Associate Professor, Coordinator, Educational Technology,, [michael.f.young@uconn.edu](mailto:michael.f.young@uconn.edu)

# EdPrepLab Engagement

- Driven by the collective development of our Neag Vision & Mission statements
- A one-year collaborative process (2020-2021)
- Faculty and partner district engagement in the process

# Our Vision

Our teachers transform their classrooms and their schools to promote a more just and equitable society. They disrupt historic patterns of inequity and help schools become inclusive, engaging, and inspiring spaces where all learners flourish.

# Our Mission

We prepare teachers to engage all students in deeper learning. Our teachers learn to enact multimodal, research-based instructional practices to promote equity and excellence in their classrooms. Graduates develop trusting relationships with students, families, colleagues, and local partners to co-construct collaborative classrooms and school communities.

# In the Beginning...Bottom Up- Fall 2020

- Invitation to submit a self-nomination application for membership
- Shared EdPrepLab Affiliate and Network membership overviews with the Neag Teacher Education Faculty
- Sought TE feedback on our engagement as Affiliate or Network members

# Fall 2021

- Shared seven EdPrepLab working group options and opportunities with TE faculty
- Surveyed TE faculty in relation to the two working groups that would best support and align with our program's mission and vision statements



# Faculty Volunteers

Faculty self-selected to participate on one of the following two committees:

- **Racial Justice as Foundational in Educator Preparation**
- **Successful Online Educator Preparation**

# District Partners

- Wanted to engage our partners in this important work
- An opportunity for us to connect and collaborate with our partners in an effort to share ideas and our current work in the pre-service teacher preparation program
- Sought to engage a representation of urban, suburban and rural partnerships
- Teacher Ed leadership team made personal contact with district leadership to invite their participation in one of the two working groups understanding the value of their voices and experiences that would contribute to our program's development and students' preparation

# Working Groups

## Racial Justice as Foundational in Educator Preparation

**Michele Femc-Bagwell, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor in Residence, Director of Teacher Education,

**Tom Levine, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor, Curriculum and Instruction,

**\*Nicole Sanders, Ed.D.**

Senior Equity and Talent Officer, Consolidated School District of New Britain

**\*Anastasia Difedele-Dutton, Ed.D.**

Assistant Director of Professional Learning, Hartford Public Schools

**\*District Partners**

# Working Groups

## Successful Online Educator Preparation

### **Niralee Patel-Lye, Ed.D.**

Assistant Clinical Professor, Associate Director of Teacher Education,  
TCPCG (Teacher Certification Program for College Graduates)

### **Mike Young, Ph.D**

Associate Professor, Coordinator, Educational Technology

### **\*Robert Testa**

Assistant Superintendent, Vernon Public Schools

### **\*Bonnie Fineman**

Director of Arts and Humanities, Windsor Public Schools

### **\*District Partners**

# Flexibility- A Pandemic Attribute

- Participation changes :
  - Leave of Absence
  - Other commitments
  - Changing leadership
- Will continue personal outreach to invite new faculty and partner engagement

# EdPrepLab Joined Faculty Meeting 10/2021

**Beatrice Benavides**, Project Manager, Educator Preparation Laboratory, Bank Street College of Education

**Jessica Charles**, Director, Educator Preparation Network, EdPrepLab

Director of Scholarship on Educator Practice, Bank Street Graduate School of Education

**Maria Hyler**, Director, EdPrepLab

Director, Washington DC Office and Senior Researcher, Learning Policy Institute

**Steve Wojcikiewicz**, Senior Researcher and Policy Advisor, Learning Policy Institute

# Partner and Faculty Insights on EdPrepLab Engagement

How might your involvement with EdPrepLab and the working committee support your partnership work with UConn and your district's initiatives?

As a faculty member, how might your involvement with EdPrepLab and the working committee support our program and working relationships with our partners and other EPPs?

# Partner Insights

## **Nicole Sanders, Ed.D.**

Senior Equity and Talent Officer, Consolidated  
School District of New Britain

## **Robert Testa**

Assistant Superintendent, Vernon Public Schools

## **Bonnie Fineman**

Director of Arts and Humanities, Windsor Public  
Schools



# Faculty Insights

**Tom Levine, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor, Curriculum and Instruction

**Niralee Patel-Lye, Ed.D.**

Assistant Clinical Professor, Associate Director of Teacher Education, TCPCG (Teacher Certification Program for College Graduates)

# Breakout Groups

Faculty and partners to facilitate (10-15 minutes)

Please answer the questions on the google doc posted in the chat:

- If you are a faculty member, how did you engage your institution in EdPrepLab membership and how did you involve your partner districts?
- If you are a partner district, how do you envision your involvement and committee work as being supportive of your partnership and district initiatives?

# Reconvene for Group Discussion

Thank You!