

UPDATES

63 MEMBERS JOIN ACADEMY CLASS OF 2021

The Learning Forward Academy Class of 2021 has begun its 2½-year program with 63 members representing 23 states and a diverse range of students, staff, and areas of professional learning focus.

The Academy is Learning Forward’s flagship deep learning experience. Participants build their knowledge of and capacity for best practices and address problems of practice while learning with other educators.

The class will learn under the coaching direction of Ramona Coleman and Stacy Winslow. Coleman is director of professional learning in Fort Wayne (Indiana) Community Schools. Winslow is assistant to the superintendent for curriculum, instruction, and assessment in Derry Township School District in Hershey, Pennsylvania.

Academy sponsors include the Learning Forward Foundation, Frontline Education, Corwin, and the Learning Forward Texas Affiliate.

For more information, visit learningforward.org/academy.

New senior district fellow appointed



Nikki Mouton

Nikki Mouton is Learning Forward’s new senior district fellow. Mouton will provide leadership and support for research projects and consulting.

Mouton is a graduate of the Learning Forward Academy, a former affiliate leader, and a current Academy coach. She has held leadership roles for the Dallas (Texas) ISD and Gwinnett County (Georgia) Public Schools, and she brings deep expertise from her experience as a teacher, teacher leader, professional learning facilitator, and educational consultant.

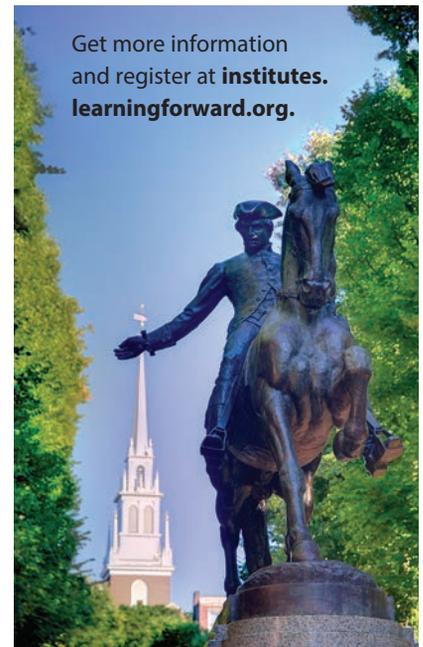
Mouton holds a doctorate from Mercer University and a bachelor’s degree from Spellman College.

SUMMER INSTITUTES FOCUS ON EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE

Learning Forward’s 2019 Summer Institutes offer four days of deep learning with a focus on equity and excellence. The institutes take place July 18-21 at the Westin Boston Waterfront in Boston, Massachusetts.

Learning Forward and Student Achievement Partners have teamed up, with support from the Carnegie Corporation, to present this year’s program, “Advancing Equity and Excellence: Aligning College- and Career-Ready Standards, Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Effective Professional Learning.”

Participants will deepen their understanding of how equity outcomes require critical connections between high-quality curricula and instructional materials, and the vital intersection of curricula and professional learning.



FEATURED SOCIAL MEDIA POST



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Members of the Redesign PD Community, along with Learning Forward staff and consultants, meet in April in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Learning Forward hosts Redesign PD Community

Teams from 11 districts gathered at a convening of the Redesign PD Community in April in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The network, which began in fall 2018, aims to increase the effectiveness of teams responsible for the planning and delivery of effective professional learning in their districts.

Each participating district creates a team aim specific to its local context, and teams also learn from one another. Using improvement science principles, Learning Forward serves as the network's hub, facilitating the learning

and sharing practical resources.

Learning opportunities at the April convening included roundtable discussions and targeted networking; a microlab protocol for learning from peers using reflection and active listening skills; learning about principles of improvement science and measures of improvement; discussing successes and challenges; and planning next steps and the next convening in fall 2019.

Participant survey feedback was positive: 88% of respondents expected the roundtable and networking sessions

to greatly influence their progress, and 60% said the same about the microlabs and a session focused on equity. Furthermore, 65% of community members agree or strongly agree that the work of this community will result in less work over time, and nearly half said it is already doing so.

For more information about the Redesign PD Community, visit learningforward.org/learning-opportunities/redesign-pd-community-of-practice.

Foundation names 2019 scholarship and grant winners

The Learning Forward Foundation has announced its 2019 scholarship and grant award winners, including two winners of the inaugural Stephanie Hirsh Academy Scholarship, which honors Learning Forward's outgoing executive director.

This year's winners are:

- **Learning Forward Foundation Academy Scholarship:** Mandy Alexander, Grapevine-Colleyville ISD, Grapevine, Texas; Nancy Routson, Arlington Public Schools, Arlington, Virginia;
- **Patsy Hochman Academy Scholarship:** Ashley White, Colleyville Heritage High School, Colleyville, Texas;
- **Stephanie Hirsh Academy Scholarship:** S. Ayesha Farag, Newton Public Schools, Auburndale, Massachusetts; Tiffany Hall, Salt Lake City School District, Salt Lake City, Utah; and
- **Learning Forward Foundation Dale Hair Affiliate Grant:** Learning Forward Michigan.

For more information about scholarships and grants, visit foundation.learningforward.org/scholarships-and-grants.

MEET US IN ST. LOUIS AT THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Learning Forward is gearing up for the 2019 Annual Conference, to be held Dec. 7-11 in St. Louis, Missouri. The conference theme is "Gateway to Success: Our Learning. Their Future."

This year marks Learning Forward's 50th anniversary, and conference attendees are invited to celebrate during the welcome reception.

Education leaders who will facilitate learning include Zaretta Hammond, Joellen Killion, Thomas Guskey, Douglas Reeves, Courtlandt Butts, Jim Knight, Crystal Gonzales, Jill Harrison Berg, Fernando Reimers, EdReports, Sarah Nadiv, Andy Hargreaves, and Dennis Shirley.

Take advantage of early bird pricing now. Learn more about the conference and register at conference.learningforward.org.