EK BN

FORUM 2026

Shaping the Future of Knowledge Brokering

EVENT PROGRAM

February 24-26, 2026

1:00 - 5:00 PM ET

Zoom Events

TUESDAY – 2/24

1:00-1:55 PM
WELCOME & KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Vivian Tseng
CEO, Foundation for Child Development

Championing Knowledge Brokering in a Multiracial Democracy

2:00-2:55 PM

PANEL DISCUSSION: FOUNDATIONS AND FUTURES OF KNOWLEDGE BROKERING

Panelists will share their experiences engaging in foundational aspects of knowledge brokering, highlighting what their work looks like across different contexts and how that work contributes to evidence-informed change in education.

Facilitated by **Elizabeth Farley-Ripple**, University of Delaware

Panelists:
- **Michelle Extrom, Director,** Education Program, National Conference of State Legislatures
- **Shiv Karunakaran,** Director of Learning Sciences at HMH
- **Moonhawk Kim,** Manager of Inquiry, Evaluation, and Research, SFUSD
- **Neal Morton,** Author & correspondent, Hechinger Report

3:05-3:55 PM

KNOWLEDGE CAFES: CONCURRENT SESSIONS ROUND 1

(LISTED ALPHABETICALLY BY FIRST SPEAKER)

The Architecture of High-Quality Partnerships: What Strong Districts Do Differently
Jimmy Brehm, Carnegie Learning

The International Landscape of Knowledge Mobilisation: Insights, Gaps, and Future Directions
Tali Malkin, OECD-EDU

Making Sense of AI Together: What Higher Ed Can Learn from Real Conversations Across Campuses
Trish Martin, Monstarlab

Beyond the Hype: An Evidence-Based Critical Dialogue on AI and Knowledge Brokering
Lucy Rycroft-Smith, University of Cambridge

Seeding Research-Practice Partnerships when Resources are Scarce
Kristin Simmers, University of Connecticut and Forman School

TUESDAY - 2/24

4:05-4:55 PM

KNOWLEDGE CAFES: CONCURRENT SESSIONS ROUND 2

(LISTED ALPHABETICALLY BY FIRST SPEAKER)

Bridging the Gap: Leveraging Knowledge Brokering and Facilitation to Drive Educational Innovation
Deloreon Burton, Independent Consultant

Knowledge Mobilization and Evidence Synthesis Research: Looking Across Disciplines for Ideas and Insights
Elizabeth Day, HEDCO Institute for Evidence-Based Educational Practice at the University of Oregon

Mapping What Matters: Using Social Network Analysis to Strengthen Collaboration among Teachers
Diana Galvez, San Francisco Unified School District

A Collaborative Conversation about the Next Generation of Education Research and Technical Assistance
Ellen Sherratt, The Consortium on State Education Support
Jenni Fipaza, Communications Strategist

4:55 - 5:00 PM

CLOSING REMARKS

WEDNESDAY - 2/25

1:00-2:00 PM

WELCOME & FIRESIDE CHATS

Join breakout rooms featuring relaxed conversations with representatives from knowledge brokering organizations, including the Alliance for Learning Innovation, Digital Promise, Ed Research for Action, and Leanlab Education.

2:05-2:55 PM

KNOWLEDGE CAFES:
CONCURRENT SESSIONS ROUND 1

(LISTED ALPHABETICALLY BY FIRST SPEAKER)

Elevating Community-Based Expertise to Strengthen Postsecondary Persistence and Completion in the South
Amber Davis, Southern Education Foundation
Kenita Williams, Southern Education Foundation
Adelia Kittrel, Arkansas Community Foundation
Jonathan Reid, ECMC Foundation

Designing at the Margins: How Rural Networks Build Joy-Centered Infrastructure
Nicodemus Ford, Rural Professional Learning Network & Design With Joy

Bridging the Gap: Fostering Equitable Research-Practice Collaborations
Judi Fusco, Digital Promise
Linette Victor, Digital Promise
Jessica McClain, Digital Promise
Danielle Murphy, Indiana University

Beyond the Tools: Practicing the Human Side of Knowledge Brokering
Emma Parkerson, Systems Design Lab
Camila Velasquez, Systems Design Lab
Edit Khachatryan, Sovoroom

3:05-3:55 PM

KNOWLEDGE CAFES:
CONCURRENT SESSIONS ROUND 2

(LISTED ALPHABETICALLY BY FIRST SPEAKER)

Collective Agency for Equity: Expanding Access to Gifted/Talented and Advanced Coursework in Arkansas
Tawheedah Abdullah, Southern Education Foundation
Eshé Collins, Southern Education Foundation

Bridging the Gap: Equity-Centered Communications as a Tool for Knowledge Brokering in Education
Sharise Johnson, SMJ Communications

Better Questions vs. Better Supports for Evidence: Who Decides? What Does the Research Say?
Norma Ming, Socos Labs

WEDNESDAY - 2/25

3:05-3:55 PM

KNOWLEDGE CAFES: CONCURRENT SESSIONS ROUND 2

Bridging Research and Practice: Leveraging the PA Evidence-Based Resource Center to Drive Equitable School Improvement
Kim Rank, Chester County (PA) Intermediate Unit (CCIU)
Laura Mikowychok, Pennsylvania Evidence-Based Resource Center

From Law to Practice: Knowledge Brokering Strategies for Navigating Title VI in K–12 Contexts
Kimberly Jenkins Robinson, Education Rights Institute at the University of Virginia School of Law
Bridget Joyce, Education Rights Institute at the University of Virginia School of Law

4:05-4:55 PM

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Sonn Sam, National Director of Partnerships at Big Picture Learning

Students are the curriculum and the community is the school: Lessons for knowledge brokers from interest-driven, real-world learning

4:55 - 5:00 PM

CLOSING REMARKS

THURSDAY 2/26

1:00-1:55PM

WELCOME & KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Tanner Jackson
General Manager, Corporate Solutions at ETS

The Human Edge: Becoming a Knowledge Broker in an AI World

2:00-3:00 PM

PANEL DISCUSSION:

LESSONS FROM CO-DESIGN TO SUPPORT KNOWLEDGE BROKERING

Panelists will offer perspectives from their experience with collaborative design, or "co-design", a team-based process used to develop educational innovations. Hear how they approach issues of power dynamics, the impacts of co-design on education communities, and how knowledge brokers can play a critical role in co-design success.

Moderated by **Phil Vahey**, Applied Learning Insights

Panelists:
- **Rebecca McGill-Wilkinson**, Leanlab Education
- **Ronak Parikh**, Leanlab Education
- **Isabel Hurtado Lopez,** Center for Scientific Research and Higher Education at Ensenada
- **Adam Hicks**, Shelby County (KY) Public Schools

3:15-4:15 PM
KNOWLEDGE FAIR

(LISTED ALPHABETICALLY BY FIRST SPEAKER)

Building a Body of Evidence: Rapid Systematic Reviews for K-12 Educators
Andy Accettola, Founder & CEO of Homegrown Education Research & Evaluation

Communications Equity Audit™: A Practical Tool to Strengthen Evidence Use, Trust, and Shared Understanding
Sharise Johnson, SMJ Communications

From Research to Action: A Practical Template for Evidence Sharing in Education
Rachel Wright Junio, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI)

Putting Change Frameworks to Work in Research–Practice Partnerships
Eliza Fabillar, Consultant

CREATEd Co-Design Toolkit
Elizabeth Farley-Ripple, University of Delaware

Democratizing Evidence: AI-Assisted Meta-analysis
Claire Han, MyEducationResearcher

THURSDAY - 2/26

3:15-4:15 PM

KNOWLEDGE FAIR

Education Statistics Across the AIR-Waves: Democratizing Education Statistics Through an Artificial Intelligence Agent and Online Data Tools by the American Institutes for Research (AIR)
Jennifer Sable, American Institutes for Research
Anlan Zhang, American Institutes for Research
Cong Ye, American Institutes for Research

Providing Explicit Support for Evidence-Informed Implementation When Brokering Research
Jonathan Sharples, Manchester Metropolitan University

Bridging Research to Design: A Systematic Methodology for Integrating Evidence Weights, Alignment Estimates and Iterative Updates for Educational Innovations
Philip Vahey, Applied Learning Insights
Natalia Kucirkova, International Centre for EdTech Impact

4:15-4:45 PM

TABLE TALKS

End your Forum experience with facilitated conversations to share your reflections, insights, and takeaways from the event with colleagues. Table Talks are your opportunity to help us shape the future of knowledge brokering!

4:45 - 5:00 PM

CLOSING REMARKS

EKBN FORUM 2026