



Opportunities for Teachers,
Results for Urban Students

What Do Teachers Think About ESEA?

Thursday, June 4, 2015

10am – noon

G-11 Dirksen Senate Office Building

Panelists

Raquel Maya Carson, 2nd Grade Teacher, Powell Elementary School, Washington, D.C.



Raquel Maya Carson is a 2nd grade dual language teacher at Powell Elementary School, a public school in Washington, D.C. As a bilingual educator, Raquel is passionate about empowering her students to become bi-literate by cultivating their native and second languages. At Powell, she also serves as a Family Engagement Teacher Lead. Raquel is on the Executive Board for Young Education Professionals-DC and has recently completed a fellowship with the Data Quality Campaign. Raquel entered the classroom after

working in education communications for federal and national organizations including National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) and Lumina Foundation. She holds a BA in sociology from George Washington University and a Masters of Arts in teaching from Johns Hopkins University.

Nathaniel Cole, Social Studies Teacher, E.L. Haynes Public Charter School, Washington, D.C.



Nathaniel Cole teaches 9th grade world history and 11th grade U.S. government at E.L. Haynes Public Charter School in Washington, D.C. He also serves as a teacher leader on a variety of initiatives aimed to increase teacher effectiveness and student achievement. Prior to coming to D.C., Nate worked as a social studies teacher, varsity basketball head coach, and athletic director at a public school in the Bronx, New York. He completed a two-year stint as a youth-development volunteer for Peace Corps Dominican Republic

and has taught history and coached golf in the Seattle area. Nate graduated from Willamette University with a BA in history and philosophy. He holds an MA in teaching from the University of Washington and an MEd in educational leadership and administration from the College of St. Rose.



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Chris Hofmann, 4th Grade Teacher, KIPP Raices Academy, Los Angeles, CA



Chris Hofmann is a 4th grade teacher at KIPP Raices Academy in East Los Angeles, where he has founded two grade levels, developed curricula, and led various school initiatives. In 2011, in order to raise his students' cultural consciousness, Chris along with his students' families, created the Cultural Advocacy Project, a photo voice project aimed at highlighting ways to better integrate students' individual identities and cultures into the school experience. Chris was awarded the KIPP LA Teacher of the Year Award in 2014. Chris started his teaching career as an English language assistant in Madrid, Spain. He graduated from Amherst College with a degree in political science and holds a Master of Arts in urban education from Loyola Marymount University.

John F. Mastroianni, Director of Bands and K-12 Music Supervisor, Canton Public Schools, Connecticut



John Mastroianni has taught at New York University, Albertus Magnus College, University of Bridgeport, New York State Summer School for the Arts, Bridgeport Central High School, New Canaan High School, and Hall High School. Currently, he is the Director of Bands and K-12 Music Supervisor for the Canton Public Schools, an adjunct jazz faculty member at the University of Connecticut, and the founder and music director of the Young Artists Summer Jazz Workshop. In December 2002, John was named by SBO Magazine as one of 50 directors in the United States that "make a difference," and in March 2004, John was chosen by the Connecticut Music Educators Association (CMEA) as the Secondary School Teacher of the Year. In 2010, he was honored by Strathmore's Who's Who as an individual who has demonstrated leadership and achievement in his profession. John was chosen as the 2013-14 West Hartford Public Schools Teacher of the Year, and he was a quarter finalist for a 2014 Music Educator GRAMMY Award. He was also honored by the University of Bridgeport as a distinguished alumnus. In addition to being a free-lance musician, John performs with his own quartet, and leads his own sixteen piece jazz orchestra that he composes and arranges all of the music for. John's music has been performed and recorded by his quartet and jazz orchestra, the Sonny Costanzo Big Band, the John Allmark Jazz Orchestra, the Army Blues Band (Washington D.C.), the New England Jazz Ensemble, the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, DIVA, and many high school, college, and professional jazz ensembles throughout the United States.



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Corey Morrison, Math Teacher, Lindblom Math and Science Academy, Chicago, IL



Corey Morrison is a STEM focused, secondary math teacher in the heart of Chicago's West Englewood neighborhood. Corey came to Chicago to provide urban secondary students with innovative, exciting, and real world-style math education. He aims to excite students about the transition from pre-algebra to Algebra 1, often at a time when students are resistant to more advanced mathematics. A grade-level leader and an active participant in the integrated curriculum creation and implementation of technology in math, Corey has taught for

three years at Lindblom Math and Science. He is passionate about integrated student learning, which is why he values collaborating across subject areas and within the departments. Corey graduated from The Ohio State University with a BA in mathematics and a MEd in STEM secondary education.

Melissa Tracy, Social Studies Teacher, Conrad Schools of Science, Wilmington, DE



Melissa Tracy is a National Board Certified Social Studies teacher in Wilmington at Conrad Schools of Science, where she has been for eight years. Melissa currently teaches high school social studies and she annually travels with her students to Model United Nations and Youth in Government conferences. Melissa earned a BA in history from Tulane University, an MEd in curriculum and instruction in social studies from the University of Delaware. As a James Madison Fellow, she is currently pursuing an MA in history at Villanova University. Melissa has previously taught in India, Poland, and Thailand. Melissa is also an America Achieves fellow, a Delaware Teacher Institute fellow and she currently serves on the Rodel Foundation's Teacher Council with a focus on personalized learning.