

State of the Schools 2020: The Educational Costs of the COVID-19 Pandemic

Speaker Biographies

Nora Gordon is an economist and associate professor at the Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy. She is a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research, nonresident fellow of the Urban Institute, member of the FutureEd Advisory Board, and an associate editor of *Education Finance and Policy*. Gordon, along with Carrie Conaway, authored *Common-Sense Evidence: The Education Leader's Guide to Using Data and Research*. Her own research focuses on American education policy, with an emphasis on the federal role in elementary and secondary education. Her work has been published in journals including the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, the *Journal of Public Economics*, and the *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy* and been funded by the National Science Foundation, the Spencer Foundation, the American Educational Research Association, and the Smith Richardson Foundation. Her popular writing appears in outlets including the *New York Times*, *Education Week*, and *TheAtlantic.com*.

Michael Hinojosa is superintendent of the Dallas Independent School District (ISD). Hinojosa has served for 20 years as head of 6 public education systems, including 2 of the 25 largest school systems in America: Dallas ISD and the Cobb County School District in suburban Atlanta. His career in public education, from teacher and coach to superintendent/chief executive officer, spans more than three decades. He has been recognized as 2002 Superintendent of the Year by the Texas Association of School Boards and 2005 Superintendent of the Year by the University of Texas at Austin. He was honored as Distinguished Alumnus by the College of Education at Texas Tech University and, in 2014, as Outstanding Latino Educator by the Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents. He is a past president of the Texas Association of School Administrators, a proud graduate of Dallas ISD, and an alumnus of the University of Texas at Austin, where he earned his doctoral degree in education.

Robin Lake is director of the Center on Reinventing Public Education, a nonpartisan research and policy analysis organization developing transformative, evidence-based solutions for K-12 public education. Her research focuses on US public school system reforms, including public school choice and charter schools, innovation and scale, portfolio management, and effective state and local public oversight. Lake serves as a board member or adviser to various organizations and publications, including the *Journal of School Choice*, the National Center for Special Education in Charter Schools, the National Association of Charter School Authorizers, and *Education Next*. She was named to the summer 2016 class of the Pahara-Aspen Educational Fellowship Program, designed to support exceptional leaders reimagining US public schools. Lake holds a bachelor's degree in international studies and a master's degree in education and urban policy from the University of Washington.

Kim Rueben is the Sol Price fellow and director of the State and Local Finance Initiative at the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center. Rueben is an expert on state and local public finance and the economics of education. Her work examines issues of state and local public finance and focuses on state budget and tax issues, intergovernmental relations, fiscal institutions, and the economics of education, including federal and state financing of both K–12 and postsecondary education and how such decisions affect people differently across states. She serves on a council of economic advisers for the Controller of the State of California and on a National Academy of Sciences panel on the economic and fiscal consequences of immigration. She was also on the DC Tax Revision Commission in 2013. Rueben received a bachelor’s degree in applied math-economics from Brown University, a master’s degree in economics from the London School of Economics, and a doctoral degree in economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Heidi Sipe has been superintendent of Oregon’s Umatilla School District since 2007. In 2016, she was named Oregon Superintendent of the Year by the Oregon Association of School Executives and the Coalition of Oregon School Administrators. Sipe led the creation of Umatilla’s STEM Academy and served as volunteer coach of the district’s award-winning FIRST Robotics team. This past April, she was one of 27 leaders named to the School Superintendents Association COVID-19 Recovery Task Force.