

## Innovating Education through Community Partnership Schools

**Tuesday 3 August 2021 - Parallel Session 2 - 12.45pm to 1.45pm (GMT+1)**

**FRASER - Building Enduring Partnerships**

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**Purpose:** This presentation will discuss the impact of Community Partnership Schools as an equity strategy to improve educational outcomes in urban, suburban and rural communities that influence policies through innovative practice. The presentation will provide an overview of the process and strategy for a statewide scale and an embedded continuous improvement certification to support best practices. Additionally, the presentation will review the methods for technical assistance, assessment and evaluation, and strategies for fidelity to the Community Partnership Schools model. Community Partnership Schools are a unique community school initiative developed as a cross-sector collaboration between universities, non-profits, school districts and healthcare providers. **Methods:** Community Partnership Schools were first launched in Orlando, FL, in 2009 and have expanded to 26 sites statewide. Employing a case study methodology based on community needs assessments, surveys, interviews and school-level data, we found that Community Partnership Schools have demonstrated success through increased school attendance, academic performance, teacher retention, graduation rate and a reduction in student behavioral infractions. The model embraces partnership through shared governance, goals and data based on the four pillars of a community school: expanded learning opportunities, wellness supports, family engagement and collaborative leadership. **Outcomes/Conclusion:** Community Partnership Schools have dramatically impacted students, families, schools and communities and have led to state funding to support expansion and development across Florida. **Relevance:** The system-wide approach to improve schools and community aligns with the conference theme to Innovate for the Future and build sustainable solutions in education through cross-sector partnerships.