THE CONVENING

The Leading Edge of Early Childhood Education convening launches a strategic collaboration designed to advance the next generation of early education — a major difference from the existing, decades-old model of childcare. Through this convening we will:

• Highlight the best of what we currently know about healthy child development, high-quality systems of early learning, and the challenge of taking ideas to scale

• Bring in new thinking from other fields to provide insights that bear on the design of Pre-K improvement and expansion

• Conceive of innovative insights and actions beyond what any single participant could achieve on his or her own

THE IMPACT:
CAPTURING AND SHARING WHAT IS LEARNED

• Community of action that includes diverse leaders committed to working together for high-quality early education

• Edited volume rooted in the convening, to serve as guidance for the field

• A series of one-page translational briefs for leaders, to support their strategy and decision-making going forward

TOPICS AND PARTICIPANTS: JOINING DIVERSE STAKEHOLDERS FOR ACTION

The convening includes six plenary sessions that will act as a platform for co-creating actionable knowledge around high-impact issues.

• SCALING AND IMPROVING EARLY TEACHING AND LEARNING
Deborah Phillips, Georgetown University
Study Director, From Neurons to Neighborhoods: The Science of Early Childhood Development

• LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS THAT PROMOTE EARLY DEVELOPMENT
Kathryn Hirsh-Pasek, Temple University
Author, Einstein Never Used Flashcards: How Our Children Really Learn and Why They Need to Play More and Memorize Less

• EARLY IDENTIFICATION AND INTERVENTION FOR CHILDREN AT RISK FOR DISABILITY
Beth Rous, University of Kentucky
Technical Adviser, National assessment of IDEA and its implementation

• THE ENVIRONMENT AND CONSTELLATION OF EARLY RISK
Charles Nelson, Harvard Medical School and Harvard Graduate School of Education
Chair, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Research Network on Early Experience and Brain Development

• THE COMPLEXITY OF EFFECTING TWO-GENERATIONAL CHANGE
Lindsay Chase-Lansdale, Northwestern University
Founding Director, Cells to Society: The Center on Social Disparities and Health

• THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY AND MEDIA IN EARLY CHILDHOOD
Michael Rich, Boston Children’s Hospital
Founder, Center on Media and Child Health (CMCH)

Harvard Faculty Chairs:
Stephanie Jones and Nonie Lesaux

Attendees:
• Policymakers
• Education leaders
• Center directors and administrators
• Classroom practitioners
• Funders and nonprofit leaders

TO APPLY:
www.gse.harvard.edu/ppe/ec

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