

## PARTICIPANTS

**Darryl Adams** is superintendent of schools for the Coachella Valley Unified School District. In 28 years as a teacher, principal, and superintendent, he has pursued the goal of preparing students for college, career, and citizenship. Under his leadership, Coachella Valley Unified has been committed to providing students with digital access. After voters approved Measure X, which provided \$42 million for digital conversion, the district became the first in the nation to provide iPads to all students, from preschool through high school. His district's Wi-Fi on Wheels program—which places Wi-Fi routers on school buses and parks them in neighborhoods where there is no connectivity—is being replicated across the nation. His next goal is to have his school district be the first in the nation to become an Internet service provider. He has been named by the Center for Digital Education as one of the country's Top 30 Technologists, Transformers, and Trailblazers. Recently, he was selected by the Obama administration as a Top Innovative Superintendent.

**Geoff Belleau** is an education program consultant at the California Department of Education. He has 25 years of experience as a high-school, middle-school, and elementary-school educator. Before joining the Department of Education, he was a county office administrator, serving as program manager for instructional technology. In this role, he coordinated instructional technology projects along with district IT administrators and worked with schools and districts on technology integration and professional development. He has presented at several state and national education technology conferences and is a member of the TICAL cadre. As a semi active blogger he has also published several articles to help educators and administrators implement technology in the schools.

**Ling Ling Chang** has represented California's 55th Assembly District since 2014. She is vice chair of the Rules Committee and serves as Republican whip. She serves on several standing committees—including Appropriations and Privacy and Consumer Protection—and select committees, including Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Education and Youth and California's Future. During her first year in the legislature, she was named an inaugural STEMx Policy Fellow, part of a multistate group that is focused on improving STEM education. Before she joined the assembly, she was president and CEO of the Youth Science Center, a nonprofit education organization that focuses on strengthening the STEM curriculum in local schools. She also served two terms as a Diamond Bar city councilmember—during which she served as mayor—and as an elected board member of the Walnut Valley Water District. She is a member of the board of Cal Poly Pomona's Partners-in-Education, serves on the US Army Los Angeles advisory board, and is a National Fellows Alumnus with the Asian Pacific American Women's Leadership Institute.

**Niu Gao** is a research fellow at the Public Policy Institute of California, specializing in K–12 education. Her areas of interest include accountability and the teacher labor market, with recent work on funding for K–12 education, digital learning in K–12 schools, and STEM education. Prior to joining PPIC, she worked as a quantitative policy analyst at Stanford. She holds a PhD in educational policy and an MS in economics from Florida State University.

**Deborah Gonzalez** is director of government affairs at PPIC. She and her staff work to connect PPIC research with policymakers and community leaders. A longtime Capitol staffer, she served as policy and fiscal director for six legislative leaders and worked on a wide variety of issues—including the state budget, education reform, infrastructure funding, and public safety. She holds a law degree from the McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific, and a BA from Claremont McKenna College, where she majored in international relations.

**Patrick Murphy** is director of research and a senior fellow at PPIC, where he holds the Thomas C. Sutton Chair in Policy Research. He is also a member of the PPIC Higher Education Center team. As research director, he coordinates and directs the policy work of more than 25 researchers. His own research focuses on financing and management in both K–12 and higher education. He is an adjunct professor of politics at the University of San Francisco, where he directed the McCarthy Center for Public Service. Previously, he worked for RAND and at the Office of Management and Budget in Washington, DC. He holds a PhD from the University of Wisconsin–Madison and a master's of public affairs from the University of Texas–Austin.

**Anne Neville** is director of the California Research Bureau. She and her team develop nonpartisan research for the governor, legislature, and constitutional officers. As part of the California State Library's leadership team, she also works to connect libraries to broadband and to expand use of open data. Previously, she directed the 50-State Broadband Initiative at the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) at the US Department of Commerce. At NTIA, she oversaw both a large open-data initiative, the National Broadband Map, and grant-giving to support the emerging digital economy in all 50 states. Before that, she was a Global Leadership Fellow focusing on IT and Telecom at the World Economic Forum in Geneva, Switzerland. She also served as California's assistant secretary for economic development and technology, helping to lead California's broadband initiative. Earlier in her career, she managed a grant program to increase nonprofit capacity through the use of IT and founded a community center providing technology training and access to mainly immigrant populations.