School Improvement Summer Institute

August 3-4, 2021

Virtual

Purpose of the Summer Institute

The primary responsibility of an effective leader is to help their organization improve. The Center for Educational Innovation and Improvement's School Improvement Summer Institute (SISI) is designed for school and district leaders who know that despite the challenges their schools and communities face, they can make a positive difference in the lives of the students they serve. The SISI will engage school system leaders from across the state of Maryland in a collaborative and intensive two-day experience centered on the following themes:

- **Equity:** Most of our schools toughest problems center on the inequitable results we are getting from our students. Effective leaders must understand how equity and inequity persist in their unique school environments and create the culture and climate necessary to address them.

- **Improvement:** The students in our schools today can't wait for a new education policy or massive new funding that is always promised but rarely delivered. Effective leaders must develop and design strategies to improve the quality of teaching and learning - and in turn student outcomes, with the systems, resources, and staffing available to them.

- **Leadership:** Having a formal role of authority in a school or school system does not make one a "leader". Effective leaders are constantly developing their own leadership capacity and, more importantly, developing and distributing leadership across the organization.

Institute Objectives

- Inform and/or deepen participants' ability to use data, evidence, and community feedback to understand and address how and why we continue to produce inequitable outcomes for students based on characteristics other than talent and ability. Tools such as Equity Audits and Empathy Interviews will be shared.

- Inform and/or deepen participants' ability to engage in the disciplined inquiry necessary to understand and address the toughest challenges that impede student learning. The tools of Improvement Science will be introduced and explored, including Causal Systems Analysis, Theories of Change/Improvement, and Plan, Do, Study, Act cycles of improvement.

- Inform and/or deepen participants' understanding of their own unique leadership capabilities and how to develop as an equity-centered improvement leader.

Institute Tentative Agenda

Day	(August 3rd) 9:30am - 3:30pm
1.	*Focus: **The Equity Leader**
	***Keynote: Superintendent's Panel**
	Afternoon Affinity Groups
	*Workshops, including: — Conducting an Equity Audit — Introduction to Problem of Practice & Causal Systems Anaylsis — Implicit Bias — Conducting school-based PDSAs

Day	(August 4th) 9:30am - 3:30pm
2.	*Focus: **The Improvement Leader**
	***Keynote:** Ash Vasudeva from the **Carnegie Foundation** for the Advancement of Teaching
	***Keynote:** *The Learning Principal* by Stephanie Hirsch and Fred Brown from **Learning Forward**
	Afternoon Affinity Groups
	*Workshops, including: — Your Equity Leadership Style — School/University Partnerships for Improvement — Developing your Theory of Improvement — Equity Dialogue
	*Affinity Groups will be based on participants' needs and interests

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UMD CONTACT INFORMATION
To share your interest in this program or for any questions, please email:
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Cost: $500
To Register, please visit the **Center website:** https://education.umd.edu/research/centers/ceii