

May 14, 2021

Dear Colleague,

Dealing with and through the pandemic has helped many of us to appreciate the importance of grace and gratitude. And that is why this note must begin with an expression of deep appreciation for the numerous ways through which so many of you have continued to support the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading (CGLR) and our both/and commitments — to stay the course toward early school success while pivoting to lean into the learning loss challenges as well as the opportunities to elevate parents as essential partners. Thank you!! We continue to have much to learn with you and from you about how to make the GLR Network work and how to get better at getting better.

We need your help again as we reopen the storytelling portal on CLIP as an invitation to review, refresh and make new contributions to our networkwide collection. Please spread the word that this edition of *What's Working*XChange will be open to all GLR community and state lead organizations and other members of the local sponsoring coalitions, especially program partners, local funders and civic leaders.

Finally, this edition of *What's Working XChange* will focus on stories that provide answers to three important questions.

- What do you regard as the more significant of the COVID-19-responsive changes you have made in the past 14–15 months to your efforts around advancing the <u>seven key "must do" priorities for early school success</u>?
- What do you observe regarding your community's activities and progress around the <u>"must have assurances"</u> needed to slow and stop learning loss and to set the stage for accelerating learning recovery?
- What changes in practice, programs or policies would your community nominate as post-pandemic "keepers"?

The veterans among you will predict correctly that these areas also will be featured during the 2021 Pacesetters Recognition Process.

More details will be forthcoming shortly. In the meantime, please start planning and writing your stories through your community's profile page on CLIP. We'll be providing regular updates and reports on the content that we receive, and our aspiration is to have at least 160 communities participating by August 31, 2021.

Thanks, again.



Ralph Smith

Managing Director

Campaign for Grade-Level Reading



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