We are very pleased to present the second issue of the Chicago Leadership Collaborative’s Newsletter. This issue highlights the leadership experiences of our Resident Principals and shares information about our CLC alumni. We also share some exciting news about the future of the CLC. Take a look!

Mentor & Resident Spotlights

Mentor Principal: CPT Yashika Tippett-Eggleston
Resident Principal: Valencia Hudson-Barnes (New Leaders)
Air Force Academy High School

CPT Tippett-Eggleston and Mrs. Hudson-Barnes have mastered the art of transparency, loyalty, respect, cooperation, and candor, which makes their working relationship effective. They are “so much alike, yet so different,” but they have respected each other’s strengths and areas of improvement to help each other grow continuously. With such a strong and productive relationship, they have been able to implement the data-driven instructional cycle, which includes corrective action planning, with full fidelity. As a result, their teachers are utilizing data to differentiate instruction for all students and address their diverse learners more effectively. They both agree that “in leading a school everything is not perfect, but we remain supportive and advocate for our teachers to avoid unpredictable roadblocks.” This team is in service and commitment together for the benefit of the Air Force Academy High School community.

Mentor Principal: Greg Zurawski
Resident Principal: Jaclyn Durr (Teach for America)
John C. Coonley Elementary School

The open communication between Principal Zurawski and Ms. Durr is the foundation for this duo’s partnership at Coonley. As a team, they regularly reflect on where they are in relation to their goals, identify opportunities for continued improvement, and create a plan to move forward. When they encounter challenges, they use the same process and try to identify the cause in order to create structures and systems that can prevent them in the future. With such a solid partnership, Ms. Durr has been able to pursue many different experiences in the residency. For example, she is participating in the development and implementation of Cougar Pride, a school-wide “rite of passage” and recognition program to celebrate all of the great things Coonley students do. The duo is also “leading the school-wide focus of raising student achievement through peer-to-peer interactions, which has led to an increase in accountable talk through discussions in grades K-8.” Principal Zurawski and Ms. Durr are working hard to maintain Coonley as a place where kids love to learn.
Winter Quarter Events
Leadership Voice and Interviewing Workshop
February 7, 2015

As a follow-up to the Leadership Story and Résumé Workshop our Resident Principals and Program Coaches attended last September, the Principal Quality team offered a follow-up session that focused on refining the Resident’s Leadership Voice and Interview Skills.

The event kicked off with a networking breakfast followed by a Network Chiefs panel discussion. Chiefs Anna Alvarado (Network 1), Randel Josserand (Network 3), Luis Soria (Network 8), and Janice Jackson (Network 9) shared advice on how to prepare for principal job interviews with Local School Councils and Network Chiefs. The Residents then had an opportunity to engage with the Chiefs during an open Q & A.

The event also included break-out sessions where Residents practiced their leadership story by sharing examples of their impact at their Residency school. Chiefs then offered constructive feedback that helped improve and refine their response. Following the activity, CLC alumni AJ Stich (TFA, Hitch ES Principal), Jodilyn Pinkerton (Loyola, Galileo ES Principal), Jimmy Lugo (UIC, Stowe ES Principal), and Valencia Koker (New Leaders, McNair ES Principal) participated in a panel discussion on completing the Residency and pursuing a principalship.

The Residents left the session feeling more prepared, confident, and eager to implement the advice and practices they received as they embark on their post-Residency job search.

CLC Announcement

We are very pleased to announce that the Chicago Leadership Collaborative (CLC) is expanding this year with the addition of six external partner programs. Chicago State University, DePaul University, Dominican University, National Louis University, Northeastern Illinois University, and University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign will be joining Loyola University Chicago, New Leaders, Teach for America (in conjunction with Harvard University), and University of Illinois Chicago in preparing future members of CPS’ pipeline of highly qualified school leaders. These organizations were selected for their successful track records in developing principal leaders, their rigorous system to recruit and select high-potential candidates, and program alignment to the CPS Principal Competencies.

Principal candidates in the CLC participate in a year-long Residency at a CPS school and are mentored by high-performing principals in the District. This experience provides our Residents with hands-on, real-world experience designed to help prepare them to lead a school toward success from day one.

To learn more about our partner organizations and the Residency experience, please visit http://www.cpsleaders.com/chicago.html.

We encourage current school and network leaders to refer any potential candidates by emailing chicagoleadershipcollaborative@cps.edu.
Alumni Spotlights

Kimberly Nelson
Principal at Matthew Gallistel Elementary Language Academy
Partner Program: Loyola University Chicago (2013)

Born and raised eight blocks away from Gallistel, Kimberly Nelson has been a steadfast member of the school’s staff for close to 21 years. After graduating from Loyola University Chicago in 1994, Kimberly became an 8th grade English teacher and served in this capacity until 2004 when she became the AP for the upper grade students at Gallistel’s Branch campus. She took on the principal role in February 2013 after a leadership change and was offered a contract in June 2013. All of her professors and advisors at Loyola stressed the importance of social justice in the field of education, so she views her work at Gallistel through that lens. Her experiences in leadership and her upbringing have inculcated a very strong work ethic and a strong belief in equity in schools. Kimberly believes that her presence at Gallistel demonstrates her dedication to the community, and she hopes that her decision to stay encourages others to never forget one’s roots and always contribute to the community that helped lay their foundation as children. Due to her professional experience serving in one school and network, her participation in the CLC was beneficial because she was able to hear about different programs, processes, and practices in other schools within CPS in order to broaden her professional perspective. This broader perspective helped her, the Gallistel staff, and parent community to improve the school quality rating when she began her tenure as principal. Through their collaborative effort to raise attendance, minimize discipline issues, improve school climate, and improve academic performance, Gallistel went from Probationary Status to a Level 2+ school on the SQRP. The school community is now aiming to achieve Level 1 status. Kimberly is incredibly proud of the Gallistel community and their accomplishments so far.

Jimmy Lugo
Principal at Harriet Beecher Stowe Elementary School
Partner Program: UIC (2013)

Prior to Jimmy Lugo’s arrival at Stowe Elementary, the school had been without a contract principal for over a year. Now in his second year as principal, Jimmy—seen on the left speaking to the Stowe Student Council—fondly remembers the week he passed the CPS Principal Eligibility Process and was awarded his contract by the school’s LSC. Staff, parents, and students expressed their excitement about having a principal from the Humboldt Park community bring stability to the school. As part of the first CLC cohort, Jimmy and his peers were able to meet with many Network Chiefs and Central Office staff, to prepare for his job search when he completed the Residency at Marquette School of Excellence. During his Residency at Marquette, a turnaround school, Jimmy encountered many challenging issues that were very similar to those he encountered at Stowe when he came onboard. Jimmy was able to quickly apply much of what he learned and did in his Residency to improve management and instruction at Stowe. Not only that, he provided Stowe with a great assistant principal in Ms. Collier, a fellow UIC program alum who complements the administrative team’s implementation of distributed leadership, deep data analysis, and critical decision-making strategies with great results. In his two years at Stowe, Jimmy has connected deeply with the school community, to the point that during one of their dress-up days many of his primary grade students wanted to come dressed in a shirt and tie to “be just like Mr. Lugo.”
CPS CLC Leadership Placements

- **Antonio Acevedo** (Loyola, 2013): Principal at Whittier
- **Sara Haas** (Loyola, 2013): Principal at Brighton Park
- **Kimberly Nelson** (Loyola, 2013): Principal at Gallistel
- **Jimmy Lugo** (UIC, 2013): Principal at Stowe
- **David Narain** (UIC, 2013): Principal at King College Prep
- **Rituparna Raichoudhuri** (UIC, 2013): Principal at Ravenswood
- **Claudia López** (UIC, 2014): Principal at Fairfield
- **Nathan Manaen** (TFA, 2013): Principal at Renaissance
- **Robert Croston** (TFA, 2014): Principal at Palmer
- **Elsie K. Kane** (New Leaders): Principal at Peterson
- **Chad Adams** (New Leaders, 2013): Principal at Sullivan HS
- **Jasmine Bankhead** (New Leaders, 2013): Principal at O’Keeffe
- **Kimbreana Taylor-Goode** (New Leaders, 2013): Principal at Lewis
- **Chinyere Okafor** (New Leaders, 2013): Principal at Jensen
- **Charles Smith** (New Leaders, 2013): Principal at Infinity M&S HS
- **Linnea Garrett** (New Leaders, 2014): Principal at Chicago Tech HS
- **Denise Lynch** (New Leaders, 2014): Principal at Marsh
- **Ashley Peterson** (New Leaders, 2014): Principal at Jordan
- **Morgan Gallagher** (Loyola, 2014): Principal at Roosevelt HS
- **Katherine Magnuson** (UIC, 2013): AP at Skinner North
- **Amy Vendra** (UIC, 2013): AP at Wells HS
- **Sherri Walker** (UIC, 2013): AP at National Teachers Academy
- **Stacie Chana** (UIC, 2014): AP at O’Keeffe
- **Kellie Corley** (UIC, 2014): AP at Greene
- **Michael Stosek** (UIC, 2014): AP at Kelvyn Park
- **Rashad Talley** (UIC, 2014): AP at Bennett
- **Jennifer Dixon** (TFA, 2013): AP at Palmer
- **Ivy Sebastian** (TFA, 2014): AP at Camras
- **Alaric Blair** (TFA, 2014): AP at Spencer Tech
- **Erica Gagne** (TFA, 2014): AP at Ogden
- **Janeth Medellin** (TFA, 2014): AP at Darwin
- **Meghan Duffy** (New Leaders): AP at Gunsaulus
- **Melissa Capinegro** (New Leaders, 2013): AP at O’Keeffe
- **Wayne Bevis** (New Leaders, 2013): AP at Lindblom
- **Miyoshi Brown** (New Leaders, 2013): AP at Metcalfe
- **Augustine Emuwa** (New Leaders, 2013): AP at Sullivan HS
- **Elizabeth Gallo** (New Leaders, 2013): AP at Byrne
- **Stephanie Glover-Douglas** (New Leaders, 2013): AP at Hyde Park HS
- **Justine González** (New Leaders, 2013): AP at Lewis
- **Margaret Loranger** (New Leaders, 2013): AP at Bogan HS
- **Aubrey Monks** (New Leaders, 2013): AP at Noble
- **María Amador** (New Leaders, 2014): AP at Taft HS
- **Rhonda Butler** (New Leaders, 2014): AP at Murray
- **Christopher Graves** (New Leaders, 2014): AP at Henry
- **Julie Hallums** (New Leaders, 2014): AP at McAuliffe
- **Charles McSpadden** (New Leaders, 2014): AP at Saucedo
- **Lakeya Poston** (New Leaders, 2014): AP at Curtis

Contact Information

**Rosemary Herpel, PhD**  
Executive Director of Principal Quality  
rherpel@cps.edu  
773-553-1509

**Devin Swartley**  
CLC Program Manager  
dfmcfarland@cps.edu  
773-553-1526

**Beth Colón**  
Principal Quality Fellow  
bcolonpizzi@cps.edu  
773-553-1380