

VIRGINIA L. RHODES, Ed.D.

EDUCATION EXPERT WITNESS for Education and School-Related Litigation

keen analysis--timely reports--compelling testimony

curriculum vitae

EDUCATION

Ed.D. in Urban Educational Leadership, University of Cincinnati, 2005
Administrator Development Academy, University of Cincinnati, 1993-94
M.A.T in Social Studies, Indiana University, 1978
B.A. in Political Science, Antioch College, 1975

EXPERT WITNESS SERVICES

Daubert-qualified in U.S. Federal Court, Southern district of Ohio, 8/15/18
Expert witness in school-related cases: equity, discrimination, liability,
supervision, Ed policy, school performance, evaluation, discipline,
injury or death at school, professional duty/standard of care

Specialized knowledge and experience in these areas:
School culture assessment & design of learning climate
Equity & diversity issues within personnel and student settings
Teacher-led initiatives and teacher leadership in school design
Organizational development strategies for school & districts
Policy & structural solutions for school safety and to address achievement gaps
Social-emotional learning (SEL) strategies at school & district levels
Standards of care for teacher, administrative & other school/district personnel
STEM, environmental, magnet, and other specialty startups
Student engagement through outdoor adventures and intersessions
Teacher supervision, training, evaluation, and leadership
Paraprofessional & other non-certificated employee supervision/training
Administrative training, sound practices & best practices
Acceptance- vs. rejection-based discipline systems in urban schools
Solutions for school violence, safety, emergency planning & execution
Structural solutions for high-risk settings: mobility, poverty, violence, and trauma
Innovative & 21st Century practices (domestic and abroad)

SCHOOL & DISTRICT EXPERIENCE

*35+ years of experience in urban school district policy, administration & teaching. 1977-2012
Cincinnati Public Schools, Newport, KY Public Schools*

*SCHOOL LEADERSHIP Principal/AP Cincinnati Public Schools 1994-2012
Hughes STEM High School, Walnut Hills High School, Western Hills Design Technology
High School, Aiken University High School, Academy of World Languages, Hughes Center High
School, CPS Summer Schools, OPT state proficiency test training, Robert A. Taft.*

*DISTRICT COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR—Newport Independent Schools, KY
1990-93 Special Events Coordination and district-wide public communications*

*CLASSROOM TEACHING (Social Studies)
Lecturer, Political Science, University of Cincinnati 1988-94
Faculty trainer & founder of Teachers' Writing Group, Hughes STEM H.S. 2009-2012
Teacher, CPS: Aiken, Woodward, Sawyer, & Bloom, Newport Jr. High 1977-84, 1993-94*

RENEGADE LEARNING LLC CEO/CONSULTANT 2012-CURRENT

*Urban schooling policy, management, leadership, STEM, SEL, school culture, program design and
research and development. Creating high levels of teacher performance and leadership through training
for school boards, administrators, teachers and other district leadership & staff
Consultant, undisclosed international firm. Advisement on certain aspects of U.S. public school
practices prior to their exploration of a related market sector.
Consultant, U. of Cincinnati in evaluation of field-based training course for science teachers.
Consultant, advisement & intro of new teacher evaluation product with an Texas Ed-tech firm.
Consultant, University of Cincinnati Career Ctr.--Assistance in mock interviews for pre-service teachers
and post-grad STEM interview prep for grads moving into industry
Consultant, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center--Co-Investigator on study for mental
health and achievement related to excessive student mobility among K-12 students
Member, Ohio AdvanceEd Accreditation Team School Evaluation, various high schools*

PUBLIC POLICY SERVICE

*Elected member, Cincinnati Public Schools Board of Education 1985-1993
Chairperson, Program & Personnel Committee & Facilities Committee.*

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS (present & past)

*Ohio STEM Learning Network (OSLN)
American Educational Research Association (AERA)
Comparative & International Education Society (CIES/WCCES)
National Association of Secondary School Principals (NAASP)
University Council of Educational Administrators (UCEA)
Ohio Association of Secondary School Principals (OASSP)*

National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS)
Stupski Foundation (Grant Recipient)
University of Chicago CincySTEM School Evaluation Team
NSF (National Science Foundation) STEM Grant Recipient
Cincinnati Association of Administrators & Supervisors (CAAS)
Philosophy of Education Society
John Dewey Society

RESEARCH & WRITING

“Districts Innovate, Too,” Inside Our Schools: Teacher on the Failure and Future of School Reform, Harvard University Education Publishing, May 2017. Brett Murphy, editor.
Principal Investigator, NSF-funded I-TEST CincySTEM study, 2009–2012.
Creating Culture in an Urban STEM High School” High School Journal, Fall 2011.
AERA Annual Convention; presentation of research on start-up of urban STEM high school, New Orleans, April 11, 2011 with Annette Hemmings & Doug Stevens.
P.I., National Science Foundation I-TEST conference 3/11, Washington, DC; CincySTEM research project
“Using STEM & Green Strategies with Urban Youth” June 2010, presentation, World Congress of WCCES, Bogazici University June 15, 2010, Istanbul, Turkey
“Hiring for Collaboration: The Team Task Interviews” w/ Sharon Bachman, presentation at NWO conference, Perrysburg, Ohio, Nov. 6, 2010.
“Kids In The Creek,” Aiken University High School, case study, Oct. 2008, Cincinnati.
“Learning On The Go: Voices of Highly Mobile Urban Students” Learning Inquiry, Vol. 2, no.2, May 2008. (Review reference in London Digest, Fall 2008 issue)
“The 42% Solution: Reducing Student Mobility” TX Elementary Principal./Supervisory. Assoc., 3/08 V. 21, no. 2
“Effects of School Mobility on Homeless Children” 2006–07. Consultant.
“Student Mobility: The Elephant in NCLB’s Living Room,” Vol. 25, No. 1 Winter 2007, ERS Spectrum/Journal of Research & Information.
“Kids on the Move: School Mobility & NCLB” North Central Accreditation Assoc. Newsletter, March 2006
“Impact of Urban School Mobility on Ohio School Ratings” Urban Education Journal Perspectives on Education, U. of Penn. (predictive discriminant functional analysis), Oct. 2006.
Student Mobility Bibliography, MobiKid Info, a European site on student mobility issues 2006
“Using de facto Learning Theory to Understand School Mobility” Academic Exchange Extra, Oct. 2005, Presented at Columbia University, 2005.
School Mobility and Behavioral Health study, consultant to Children’s Hospital Medical Center Research Center, Dr. Mona Mansour, principal investigator
“Kids on the Move: School Mobility and NCLB”, North Central School Accreditation and School Improvement Newsletter; Feb. ’06, Vol. 4 Issue 4.
“School Security: Real Safeguards, or Mechanical Shortcuts?” Cinti Post, 1/93
“Representation & Neighborhood Power: District Elections” Cinti Herald, 2/93
“Student Mobility & Achievement” August, 1992“

Americans in Russia: How Many Muscovites Does it Take? 9/91
"Power, Silence, and Serenity" 2/91
"Stability & Continuity in Neighborhood Schools" 7/90
"Panaceas and Public Schooling" *Cincinnati Post*, 9/89
"Privatization in Public Schooling" *NCEA Conference paper*, 6/89
"From Classroom to Boardroom" *Federation Teacher*, 1986-88
"Rhodes Reports" *Educational issues newsletter*, 1986-91
"Women in Politics" *Cincinnati Review*, Fall 1986
"Mainstreaming in the Social Studies" Co-author, curriculum guide, 1981
"Teaching the Federal Election Process" *News and Notes/Social Sciences*, '77

CONFERENCE & RESEARCH LEADERSHIP

"Building School Unity in Diversity," Bowles Diversity Conference, March, 2018 at Northern Kentucky University, 2016, '17 & '18
Dialogue on Race in America," Ohio Diversity & Leadership Conf. Columbus OH, Sept. 2014
"STEM FOR ALL," presentation at 26th annual At-Risk Youth National Forum, by Clemson University's National Drop-Out Prevention Center. Myrtle Beach, SC, Feb. 16-19, 2014
"Innovative Hiring Approach for STEM," T-STEM Conference, Dallas, TX, Feb. 6-8, 2014.
Ohio Dept. of Education Annual Statewide Conference: RTT participant, 10/2013
AdvanceEd Team Evaluator for school accreditation, St. Bernard/Elmwood Place High School. Jan. 2014, Ponitz Career Center High School May 2013, Dayton, OH. Western Hills Univ. High School, Cinti., Jan., 2013
N.E.W. Conference, Ft. Wayne, IN, Nov. 6, 2012. Led training workshop for faculty in planning and implementation of STEM high schools.
Stupski Foundation National Convening, San Francisco, Oct. 22-25, 2012, brought group of secondary faculty & students for cooperative training in student-led schooling.
Urban Institute Conference, Led training session for Woodrow Wilson Fellows on urban high school culture-building, University of Akron, OH: June 20, 2012.
STEM Training Professional Development, Hughes STEM faculty, June 1-5 2012.
"Innovative Urban School Structures," Panelist at Leadership Cincinnati's Education Day, March 8, 2012, Hughes STEM High School's Innovation Lab.
National Science Foundation, I-TEST Summit, Participant in constructing STEM models, Principal Investigator on NSF I-TEST STEM study; Washington, DC, Feb. 2012.
Stupski Learning Lab National Conference, action research on school climate and student voice, Danville, KY, Feb. 2012.
E-Tech Ohio Conference, Columbus, OH. 2/12. Whole-school strategy to reduce digital divide.
"The Digital Divide," Presentation, N. Ky. Univ., Bowles Diversity Ctr., Nov. 2011.
Building Culture in an Urban STEM High School, presentation at AERA annual convention, April 2011, New Orleans, LA with co-authors Annette Hemmings and Doug Stevens.
Innovation presentation at Ohio STEM Learning Network Race-to-Top Conf. Columbus, 3/11
"Building an Urban STEM High School," NextGen. Learn. Conf., Columbus. School Culture Hiring for Collaboration; STEM Teacher Selection, presentation/workshop at the Southwest Ohio STEM HUB Fusion Center Conference, University of Cincinnati, Sept.15, 2010.

"Using STEM & Green Strategies with Urban Youth," presentation & workshop. World Congress of Comparative Education Societies (WCCES), Bogazici Univ. 6/10, Istanbul, Turkey.
Roundtable presentation, National Science and Math Teacher Imperative, June, 2010, sponsored by 127 Universities of the Assoc. of Public/Land Grant Universities; Cincinnati, Ohio.
Ohio Summit on 21st Century Skills, CPS Supt's representative, Columbus, Ohio, May 4, 2010
"Generating & Analyzing Data Through Collaboration," 21st Century Teaching & Learning Conference: Building a Regional Vision, High Aims Consortium, April 29, 2010, with James Stallworth & Tiffany Stanton. Exploration of electronic student response systems.
Panelist: "Opening a New STEM High School" along with UC and Strive partners; Governor's Southwest Ohio Regional STEM Conference, Cincinnati, April 2010.
National Assoc. of Sec. School Principals (NASSP) Annual Convention March 12-14, Phoenix.
Association for Practical & Professional Ethics, Annual Meeting Panelist "Ethical Considerations for K-12 Expulsions" (Robert Ladenson) March 2010, Cincinnati, OH.
National Science Foundation (NSF) Conference, Feb. 25, 2010, Washington, D.C. Principal Investigator, CincySTEM Urban Initiative. Grant Awardee.
Ohio STEM Summit Conference, March 2, 2010, COSI, Columbus, Ohio
OSLN STEM Principals Conference, Feb. 2010, Bucyrus, Ohio
Southwest Ohio STEM Summit, University of Cincinnati, Sept. 2009
Presentation at NWO Symposium (Northwest Ohio Center for Excellence in Science & Math Teaching Science), Nov. 6, 2010, Penta Career Center, Perrysburg, Ohio.
Cincinnati City Schools appointed representative on Mayor's Green Initiatives Comm., 2010
Digital Directions: Smart Ed-Tech Strategies for Tough Times, Chicago, Ed Week. 9/09 OSLN STEM/Battelle Target Conference, Feb. 6, 2009, COSI, Columbus, Ohio
Faculty Writing Group/Data Acquisition & Aggregation Group, STEM High School Faculty in collaboration with UC Faculty, Oct. 2010, founder & co-facilitator.
Workshop speaker, NOW Bowling Green State University/Owens Community College Kids in the Creek: Starting an Urban Environmental Studies School in Ohio
Math/Science Teacher Summit, Nov. 8, 2008
Member, University of Cincinnati Secondary Education Advisory Board
Mock Interviewer for prospective teacher candidates, UC Career Development Center
Member, High School Task Force, Curriculum & Instruction Dept., CPS
CPS Rep on Green Partnership for Greater Cincinnati Project Team, Ed. Subcommittee
Member, Sustainable Design Committee, Cincinnati Public Schools.
Keynote Speaker, "The Revolving Door of Student Mobility," Student Mobility Summit, Parent Education Committee of LaGrange Village Council, Toledo, Ohio, Feb. 22, 2008
Student Mobility Workshop, 2/08 Nat. At-Risk Youth Conf./NDPC, Myrtle Beach, SC
Presentation, Mending the Rift Between Administration and Teachers in Inner-City Schools, Feb. 19, 2008, National At-Risk Youth Conference.
Student Mobility Briefing for Community Education Organizers, Oct. '07, Columbus.
Roundtable pres., Student Mobility, Am. Ed. Research Assoc. Convention, San Fran., Ca. 4/06
Workshop, April 4, 2006, Student Mobility, North Central Assoc. Forum, Chicago, IL.
Paper presentation, Dec. 4, 2005, Student Mobility & NCLB and Race & Education Session
Trained in Team Building & Group Process by GDP Assoc./2004
Chair, International Conf. for Social Science Research, Orlando, Fla. Paper session, 4/16/05,
Student Mobility and the Loss of Community. Urban Affairs Association, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Session presentation, April 1, 2005, de facto Learning Theory, Philosophy of Education Society Graduate Student Conference at Columbia University, New York City.

Roundtable presentation, March 2005, Student Mobility, Anonymity, & Loss of Community. Miami/Oxford, OH

Paper presentation, Feb. 11, 2005, Student Mobility, Parent Decision-Making, & NCLB, Parent Education Conference, University of North Texas, Denton, Texas.

Research presentation, Oct. 2004, Student Mobility & NCLB, Migrant Ed. Conf., S. Padre Island, Texas.

Research presentation, Spring 2001, Student Mobility, Lexington Spring Research conference. U. of Kentucky.

Decentralized student data access at Hughes, enabling teacher teams to use data analysis to support improved instructional practices.

Designed & supervised new Intervention Team at Woodward, targeting high-risk students for support. Pioneered the team-taught Humanities & Junior Research block courses at Woodward, recognized by Ohio Governor Voinovich in December 1993.

RECOGNITION & AWARDS

PI Emeritus Award: Outstanding Contribution to the ITEST Community & Leadership in the field of STEM Education, Feb. 2012, National Science Foundation

Environmental Educator of the Year, Greater Cincinnati Earth Coalition, 2008

Wright-Overstreet Award for Exemplary Service in Human Rights, 1990

Outstanding Achievement Award, Cincinnati Womens' Political Caucus, 1989

M.L. King, Jr. Achievement Award, Taft Alumni Association, 1988

Named in "200 Bicentennial Leaders," Cincinnati Enquirer, 1988

Excellent Staff Attendance Award, Hughes Center, 1997-99

Problem Solver of the Year, Taft High School Faculty Awards, 1996

Awarded study grant by the Indiana U. Religion Studies Institute, 1983

Outstanding Teaching and Curriculum Development in Economics, 1979

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Co-Convener, UGRR/Abolition Intersession, Hughes STEM March 2014

Site Coordinator of College Hill Bicentennial Living History, 2013

College Hill Forum, Education Committee Chairperson, 2012

Volunteer, formation of Crawford Commons, public park in College Hill

"Swing Semester" Host for national campaign volunteers, Fall 2008

Elected member, Cincinnati Board of Education 1985-1993

Present or past member of community & non-profit organizations

EmpowerEd Advisory Board member (Washington, DC)
Greenwood SC Chamber of Commerce
Founding member, National Coalition of Education Activists
ONE Hughes Foundation Board of Directors member
Cincinnati SEL Board of Directors member
College Hill Development Corporation
College Hill Forum Education Committee Chair
University of Cincinnati STEM Advisory Board
Community Council Ed. Committee Chair
Sister City Association of Cincinnati, vice-president
United Way/Community Chest Planning Division Board
Cincinnati Women In Jazz Committee
Warner Cable Board of Directors
Housing Opportunities Made Equal (HOME) Board
Woman's City Club
Volunteer for voter registration & campaigns
Cincinnati Women's Political Caucus
National Organization for Women
Friends of Findlay Market
Roselawn, Walnut Hills, Clifton Heights Community Councils
Emily's List women's candidates funding network
Planned Parenthood Federation

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Conference session on SEL learning strategies, Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey
Diversity & Leadership Conference, Columbus, OH
Spring Research Conference, University of Louisville
Spring Diversity Conference: Northern Kentucky University
Annual STEM Conference, University of Cincinnati
Believe-Achieve-Succeed, Black History Celebration, Hughes STEM
Clifton Heights-University Heights-Fairview Community Council
College Hill Forum & numerous other community councils
Northern Ky. Chamber of Commerce & Newport Kiwanis
Banker's Club Executive Women's Roundtable, Woman's City Club
Hyde Park Methodist Church & Christ Church Public Forums
Cleveland League of Women Voters & Ohio Women Lawyers Conference
Ohio Family Planning Conference & Planned Parenthood Federation Convention
Chicago Public Schools Training Workshops
Cincinnati Womens' Spring Empowerment Conference
Cleveland Educational Equity Conference
U.C. Medical Center & other graduations & university clas



Virginia L. Rhodes, Ed.D

Dr. Rhodes works, speaks & visits schools throughout
the U.S. & other countries.

RENEGADE LEARNING welcomes discussion of
new projects, ideas and strategies
in public education.

Check us out at renegadelearning.com.

Contact Dr. Rhodes directly at (513) 207-2566

or email: vrhodes2020@gmail.com.