

VIRGINIA L. RHODES, Ed.D.

EDUCATION EXPERT WITNESS for School & Education-Related Litigation

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 - EDUCATION & SCHOOL-RELATED LITIGATION

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:

Equity, diversity, & discrimination issues of personnel & students
School violence, safety, accidents, discipline, and emergency planning & execution

Duty and standards of care for students in K-12 schools

Duty and standards of care for teachers, administrative & other school personnel

Executive training, sound practices & best practices

Teacher-led initiatives and teacher leadership in school design

Acceptance- vs. rejection-based discipline systems in urban schools

School culture assessment & design of learning climate

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

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

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 Independent Schools

SCHOOL & DISTRICT 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.

Faculty trainer & founder of Teachers' Writing Group, Hughes STEM H.S.

2009-2012

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

PUBLIC POLICY SERVICE

Elected member, Cincinnati Public Schools Board of Education

1985-1993

Chairperson, Program & Personnel Committee & Facilities Committee.

CLASSROOM TEACHING (U.S. & world history, world geography, economics, sociology, philosophy, social issues, psychology)

Lecturer, Philosophy, Chatfield College

2016

Lecturer, Political Science, University of Cincinnati

1988-94

Teacher, CPS: Aiken, Woodward, Sawyer, Bloom + KY: Newport Jr. High **1977-84,**

1993-94

CONSULTING PRACTICE

RENEGADE LEARNING LLC

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 a 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

INNOVATOR: Developer of "de facto" Learning Theory and high engagement In-District Models (IDMs) for school districts to develop teacher-led, student-centered schools.

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 (NASSP)

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 & PI

Cincinnati Association of Administrators & Supervisors (CAAS)

Cincinnati Federation of Teachers, OFT, AFT

Philosophy of Education Society

John Dewey Society

RESEARCH & WRITING

Review of "Stimulating Mechanistic Reasoning in Physics Using Student-Constructed Stop-Motion Animations" (Journal of Science Education, 2020) Reviewed in Researchgate.

"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 program 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

I-TEST 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.

“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; March 2006, 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 Through Diversity," Bowles Diversity Conference, March, 2018 at Northern Kentucky P 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, supporting high-risk students.
Pioneered the team-taught Humanities & Junior Research block courses at Woodward, recognized by Ohio Governor Voinovich in December 1993.

RECOGNITION & AWARDS

National Science Foundation Outstanding Contribution & Leadership in the field of STEM Education/Principal Investigator Emeritus Award" Feb. 2012
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, 2012-14 & 2021
Volunteer, development of Crawford Commons in College Hill (Cincinnati)
“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
College Hill Forum Education Committee Chair
Founding member, National Coalition of Education Activists
ONE Hughes Foundation Board of Directors member
Cincinnati SEL Board of Directors member
College Hill Community Urban Redevelopment Corporation
College Hill Business Association
University of Cincinnati STEM Advisory Board
Sister City Association of Cincinnati, vice-president
United Way/Community Chest Planning Division Board
Cincinnati Women In Jazz Committee
Warner Cable Board of Directors, School Board Appointee
Housing Opportunities Made Equal (HOME) Board
Woman’s City Club
League of Women Voters
Cincinnati Women’s Political Caucus
National Organization for Women
Friends of Findlay Market
Roselawn, Walnut Hills, Clifton Heights, CH Community Councils
Planned Parenthood Federation
Emily’s List Funding Network

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 class



Virginia L. Rhodes, Ed.D

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

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

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