Sabrina W. M. Laine is vice president of the Education program at AIR, where she leads a team of more than 100 researchers, policy analysts, and technical assistance providers focused on critical education reform issues such as educator effectiveness and college and career readiness. Laine has a diverse background in educational policy research and has spearheaded efforts to contribute to policy research and resource development with a particular emphasis on managing and supporting educator talent including recruitment, compensation, evaluation, distribution, and professional development. She has previously served as principal investigator on multiple educator quality-focused technical assistance initiatives funded by the U.S. Department of Education such as the National Comprehensive Center for Teacher Quality and the Center for Educator Compensation Reform. Laine has worked for the last several years to ensure that policies and
programs are in place that enable all children to have access to highly qualified teachers and leaders. She is the primary author of the book, Improving Teacher Quality: A Guide for Education Leaders (Jossey-Bass, 2011) and a contributing author on the newly released book, Everyone at the Table: Engaging Teachers in Evaluation Reform (Jossey-Bass, 2013). Laine is also a frequent presenter on topics ranging from ensuring teacher effectiveness to equitable teacher distribution. She earned her doctorate in educational leadership and policy studies from Indiana University and lives in Washington, D.C. with her husband and two children.

Ellen Behrstock-Sherratt
AIR Senior Research and Policy Analyst Coauthor of Everyone at the Table

Ellen Behrstock-Sherratt is a senior research and policy analyst on educator quality at AIR. She supports education policy stakeholders through the national Center on Great Teachers and Leaders and the Teacher Incentive Fund, has authored or co-authored numerous articles, briefs, and reports on teacher and principal quality, and is co-author of the book Improving Teacher Quality: A Guide for Education Leaders (Jossey-Bass, 2011). Behrstock-Sherratt led the Everyone at the Table: Engaging Teachers in Evaluation Reform initiative to increase teachers’ engagement in the process of designing the policies that affect them, and is a frequent writer and presenter on such topics as teacher incentives, equitable teacher distribution, Generation Y teachers, and human capital management in education. She earned her doctorate in education from the University of Oxford.

Celine Coggins
Founder and CEO, Teach Plus

Celine Coggins is the founder and CEO of Teach Plus, Coggins is a former teacher with experience in research and policy making. She launched Teach Plus in 2007 to rebuild the teaching profession to value teacher leadership. Since that time, the organization has grown to have a presence in six cities, working with 12,000 teachers and more than 500 teacher leaders. Coggins has been a labor-management consultant in Providence, Rhode Island, as well as in Worcester and Springfield, Massachusetts, and was formerly special assistant to the Massachusetts commissioner of education on teacher quality. She has been a Mind Trust Education Entrepreneur and Aspen Institute Fellow. She is the author of several dozen reports and journal articles and the editor of two other books. She earned her Ph.D. in education policy analysis from Stanford University.

Allison Rizzolo
Director of Communications, Public Agenda Co-author of Everyone at the Table

Allison Rizzolo is the director of communications at Public Agenda. She develops and leads the organization’s communications strategy. Rizzolo writes frequently on such issues as K–12 education reform, teacher engagement, public engagement, and improving our country’s democratic processes. Rizzolo also contributes to various programs for Public Agenda. In addition to her deep involvement in Everyone at the Table, she produced Public Agenda’s 2012 Citizens’ Solutions Guides, non-partisan discussion guides that improve collaborative problem solving by using the Choicework framework to help citizens better grasp their practical choices. Rizzolo is a co-author of Energy: A Citizens’ Solutions Guide and Health Care: A Citizens’ Solutions Guide, and the author of Immigration: A Citizens’ Solutions Guide. Rizzolo is a former middle school and high school teacher. She is a graduate of Tufts University, where she studied international relations and anthropology.

Ross Wiener
Executive Director and Vice President, The Aspen Institute

Ross Wiener is executive director of the Aspen Education Program and a vice president at the Institute. He leads professional learning networks for urban school district leaders and senior congressional education staffs. Through these networks and public and private convenings, the Aspen Education Program focuses on improving human capital policies and systems, and implementation of Common Core Standards. From 2002 to 2009, Wiener worked at the Education Trust, and previously served as a trial attorney in the US Department of Justice Civil Rights Division’s Educational Opportunities Section, where he represented the United States in cases dealing with desegregation, harassment, and the adequacy of services to limited-English proficient and disabled students.

Anthony J. Mullen
2009 National Teacher of the Year, The Arch School

Anthony Mullen is the 2009 National Teacher of the Year and the 2009 Connecticut State Teacher of the Year. In 2008 he was named the Greenwich School District’s Distinguished Teacher of the Year. He wrote a popular weekly blog for Teacher Magazine called “Road Diaries” about his experience and travels as the National Teacher of the Year. Mullen wrote the foreword to Chicken Soup for the Soul: Teacher Tales, which included a personal story about why he became a teacher. Mullen has also written articles for Teacher Magazine, Ed Week, and other education and corporate publications. He recently co-authored a book with a professor at Tokyo University about how to best teach Japanese students with special needs.

Mullen earned his elementary and special education master’s degrees at Mercy College in New York. He is also certified to teach English and social studies in Connecticut, where he has taught at an alternative high school for 13 years. Mullen teaches and mentors students diagnosed with significant learning and emotional impairment. He is a special consultant to the Dean of the School of Education of Mercy College, where he helps train new teachers and develops professional development learning workshops for experienced teachers.

Prior to becoming a teacher, Mullen worked 21 years for the New York City Police Department. He worked throughout New York City and his last command was serving as the commanding officer of an anti-gang and narcotics task force. Mullen received both a New York City and New York State Proclamation award by the mayor of New York City and governor of New York State for community service. He is a member of the New York City Honor legion.

Mullen is married and lives in Somers, New York. He has three grown children.