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February 26-27, 2026

13th Annual Statewide Conference • The Conference Center at OCLC

The Power of the Teaching Profession: Creating Pathways to Accelerated Learning for All Students

This two-day conference brings educators from across the P20 continuum together to think, learn, and act together to improve educational opportunities and outcomes for all students. Join us for keynote presentations, learning academies, and concurrent research-to-practice sessions, and connect/reconnect with colleagues as we consider *The Power of the Teaching Profession: Creating Pathways to Accelerated Learning for All Students.*

Keynote Speakers:

Tessie Rose Bailey, PhD, is Principal Consultant, American Institutes for Research (AIR); Director, PROGRESS Center: Promoting Progress for Students with Disabilities; and Advisor and Former Director of the Center on Multi-tiered System of Supports (MTSS Center). She develops and provides high-quality technical assistance (TA) to states, districts, and institutions of higher education, and has extensive experience in MTSS, special education services and law, secondary and transition services, teacher education and evaluation, and scaling up evidence-based practices.

Elizabeth (Liz) Bettini, PhD, is Associate Professor of Special Education at Boston University's Wheelock College of Education & Human Development where she examines factors shaping the special education teacher workforce and how working conditions contribute to the shortage of special education teachers. Her current work focuses on identifying potential interventions to improve working conditions and addressing challenges in accessing skilled, committed special education teachers. She previously taught students with emotional and behavioral disorders (EBD) in self-contained and inclusive settings in Arizona and Connecticut.

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