



**FOR RELEASE:**

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**Catalyst for Educational Joins Research Partnership for Professional Learning**

*Educational Consulting Agency Granted Research Affiliation and Multiple Recognitions*

**CHICAGO (September 27, 2023)** — Chicago, Ill.-based Catalyst for Educational Change (CEC), a non-profit consulting agency working with educational systems throughout the country, has joined the Research Partnership for Professional Learning (RPPL) as an affiliate.

RPPL brings together professional learning organizations, researchers, school systems, and foundations who are studying how features of professional learning address teacher learning and student experiences, well-being, and academic growth, with a specific focus on students from historically marginalized groups.

As an affiliate, CEC will have access to RPPL’s research findings as well as the shared measures, tools, and resources they’re creating to help conduct professional learning research. CEC will be able to share all of this with its team and districts and will, in turn, share with RPPL what they are discovering that is relevant to RPPL’s learning agenda.

“We are thrilled to be accepted as an affiliate to the RPPL network. Alongside more than 60 leading organizations serving as affiliates, we are eager to not only accelerate student learning, but learn how we can best support teacher learning and improvement with sustainable solutions,” said CEC Executive Director, Shelley Taylor.

Located at the Annenberg Institute at Brown University, RPPL offers affiliates multiple opportunities to connect via briefings and conferences, to advance educational equity for our nation’s students by strengthening and building the usable evidence on teacher learning.

CEC was recently recognized with the Platinum Transparency Seal by Candid. Candid (formerly GuideStar) serves as the world’s largest source of information on non-profit organizations. This puts CEC in the top 0.1% of nonprofits nationally in terms of financial health, accountability, and transparency.

In addition, CEC received a Four-Star rating from Charity Navigator. This rating designates CEC as an official “Give with Confidence” charity, indicating that the agency is using its donations effectively based on Charity Navigator’s criteria. Charity Navigator is America’s largest and most-utilized independent charity evaluator. Since 2001, the



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organization has been an unbiased and trusted source of information for more than 11 million donors annually.

Taylor offered, “Our Four-Star Rating and Candid Platinum Seal are validation that our partners, funders, and clients can trust CEC in everything we do from impact & results, accountability & finance, culture & community, and leadership & adaptability. This validation, in combination with opportunities like the RPPL affiliation, we are living our mission to be the catalyst for collective solutions and innovations in more educational environments.

Learn more about CEC at [cecweb.org](http://cecweb.org).

### **About Catalyst for Educational Change**

Chicago, Ill.-based Catalyst for Educational Change (CEC) is a national, not-for-profit, consulting agency working with educational systems throughout the country. Since its founding in 1987, the mission is to be the catalyst for collective solutions and innovation in more educational environments. CEC (formerly Consortium for Educational Change) works with networks, partners, and education leaders to build internal capacity, create better outcomes, communicate with leadership, and re-think our children’s futures. For more information, visit [cecweb.org](http://cecweb.org).

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