



# Building an Engaged School Network to Boost Your Project's Success

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BARR Center

October 18, 2022

# Today's Presenters

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Rob has worked in Minnesota's public schools for 36 years as a superintendent, high school principal, elementary principal, elementary teacher and high school coach. In 2017, he retired as the superintendent in the first BARR school district.

**Rob Metz**  
Deputy Director



With 25 years of experience both in the classroom and in administration, Beth has served as a mentor, teacher and curriculum review director. Beth is currently overseeing the development of BARR's elementary model.

**Beth Heimer**  
Director of Elementary Schools

# Welcome, Introductions, and Acknowledgements

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- Please enter in the chat:
  - Name
  - School/Company/Business and Location
  - Role
  
- Acknowledgement





# Goals of Today's Session

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- Understand why it was important for BARR Center to build a national network of BARR Schools.
- Understand the key networking building strategies used by the BARR Center.
- Experience the format of a BARR Center Professional Learning Community (PLC).

# Today's Agenda

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- Review of the BARR Model
- Review of the Scale Up Project
- Importance of Building a Network
- Key Network Building Strategies
- Breakout Session
- Share Learnings from Breakout Sessions
- Conclusion





# Review of BARR Model

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- School improvement model originally developed in a high school near Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- Based on two pillars: Relationships and Data.
- Received three separate i3 grants: Development, Validation, Scale Up. Research results are impressive.
- Introduced “to the market” in 2018.
- Introduced elementary BARR in 2019.
- Has been implemented in nearly 250+ schools in 22 states.

# Scale Up Project

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- Conduct significant research study with 66 randomized schools.
  - Completed the study during the pandemic and the results were terrific.
  - <https://www.air.org/resource/report/building-assets-and-reducing-risks-barr-i3-scale-evaluation>
- Scale beyond the schools in the study.
  - Recruited the 66 study schools and met a goal of adding an additional 50 schools.
  - Developed scalable coaching model.
  - Built the BARR network of schools.
- Become a financially sustainable organization.
  - Formed the BARR Center.
  - Developed diversified revenue streams.

# Importance of Building a Network

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- Validated for good work
- Learn from one another in a safe and encouraging space
- Be part of something bigger than yourself





# Key Network Building Strategies

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- BARR Coordinator PLC's
- BARR Administrator PLC's
- BARR National Conference





# BARR Coordinator PLC's

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- Meet monthly as secondary or elementary schools to learn and discuss BARR components and implementation processes
- Share strategies that have worked for different schools (in a variety of demographics) and/or barriers that they are experiencing
- Meet one another and find connections that they can benefit from sharing experiences
- Gain confidence in themselves, as coordinators, to better support their staff and school community

# BARR Administrator PLC's

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- Meet quarterly to learn and discuss BARR related principles.
- Share strategies that have worked for them and/or struggles they want to overcome.
- Meet one another and find connections that they can benefit from moving forward.
- Gain confidence in themselves and their school teams.





# BARR NETWORKING

BARR Coordinator PLC

Connecting with more than  
175 In-School BARR Coordinators

BARR Administrator PLC

Connecting with more than  
220 Principals

BARR Conference

April 27-28, 2022  
Westin Rancho Mirage Golf Resort and Spa



# Breakout Sessions

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- Breakout Session #1
  - Coordinator PLC's and National Conference
- Breakout Session #2
  - Administrative PLC's and National Conference





# Learnings from Breakout Sessions

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- Please share thoughts, or comments, or learnings from the breakout sessions.

# Thank You

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