

## Roll Call: Checking in with NIET Teacher Leaders



### **Dr. Kenya Claiborne Roberts**

**Dr. Kenya Claiborne Roberts has served as an educator for 18 years, starting as a middle school math teacher and rising to become a master teacher in DeSoto Parish Schools.**

She then brought her expertise to Caddo Parish, where she now serves as principal of Dr. Joseph Samuel Clark Elementary. She prioritizes joining cluster and professional learning meetings, and she knows the value of providing high-quality feedback to master and mentor teachers.



## Our Teachers

NIET's work provides teachers the chance to make an impact outside of their classroom walls. Formal teacher leadership opportunities are inherent in NIET's model, and through those, educators can pursue whatever career path they choose.

“ In the master teacher role, I learned so much about reflection. Reflecting on how my TAP implementation impacted teacher growth, which impacted student growth, was the most powerful piece that helped me to be successful. I was able to learn so much about using student work to show student progress and determine what supports teachers and students needed to be productive and successful in the classroom. Because of the positive impact TAP had on my career, I moved into the role of a principal at a TAP school. This move was so exciting for me because I knew what I needed to do to help my master teachers be successful. Therefore, I can effectively coach my masters on how to coach teachers.”

**Dr. Kenya Claiborne Roberts**



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# Joni Readout

**Joni Readout is an instructional coach in Central Decatur Community School District in Iowa, where she has served in master and mentor teacher roles.**

Through her leadership positions, Joni has been able to coach peers, try out new techniques for teaching, deliver weekly job-embedded professional development, and support the implementation of new curriculum using instructional strategies aligned to the rubric. Joni was named as a Milken Educator in 2017, and she has also been tapped to serve on the Iowa Governor's Teacher Cabinet.



“ In having the privilege and opportunity to share my teacher leadership story in a variety of settings, I have grown as a professional in knowing that I have a voice that matters at the state and national levels. I have grown as an educator because of the training, networking, and collaboration with NIET, specifically in my philosophy as a teacher leader. I learned that as a leader we have to go first. I have used this mentality and had success with the teachers I work with when I go first with a new strategy, idea, or plan.”

*Joni Readout*  *Pictured above, on the right*





# Keisha Netterville

**Keisha Netterville has grown from a career teacher into a master teacher, principal, and district superintendent for East Feliciana Parish, with support from NIET and fellow teacher leaders the whole way through.**

Critically, she learned how to use data to streamline her vision for cluster meetings, school goals, and now district goals so every action was done with intention.



The support from NIET helped me to not only have purpose but also confidence as I met with and supported my colleagues instructionally. Now as a superintendent of schools, my vision for teaching and learning couldn't be clearer. Our transparency allows us to eliminate the 'fluff' and focus on what school leaders, teachers, and students need most."

*Keisha Netterville*  *Pictured right*



It's quite simple: I am the leader I am today because of NIET's TAP System. ... All the TAP Rubric knowledge, experiences, and concurrent coursework in Arizona State University's iLeadAZ program helped me to lead others into the future with new instructional strategies and student strategies, which helped more and more of our children succeed. It has been an amazingly rewarding experience!"

*Ben Smith*  *Pictured left page*

# Ben Smith

**Ben Smith began learning about the NIET rubric in his preparation program at Arizona State University before he started as a career teacher in Osborn School District.**

He jumped at the chance for additional opportunities to support and lead his peers, and he found he was able to help ensure more students had the education they deserved through that process. In 2015, he began to serve as principal at Longview Elementary.



## LaToya Turner

**LaToya Turner started working with NIET in her third year as a career teacher in Lancaster ISD in Texas.**

Over the past 12 years, she has grown as an educator into a mentor teacher role in Grand Prairie ISD, and through the Texas Tech University principal fellowship program, she became an assistant principal and now serves as testing coordinator in Grand Prairie.

“ I had learned that back then teaching was more about managing students. I didn’t really know the impact of intentional planning, building relationships, and follow up to ensure the growth in my teaching practices. I didn’t understand the effect that growing these practices would greatly impact student achievement. Through the partnership with NIET over these years, I now understand better what intentional and purposeful teaching is about and how to encourage other teacher leaders. ... I’ve learned through NIET that leadership is not about a title. It’s about empowering and inspiring the growth of others to make a positive impact on student achievement.”

LaToya Turner  Pictured above