

# Angela R. Watson

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Johns Hopkins Institute for Education Policy

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## **Education**

- 2019 Ph.D., Education Policy, University of Arkansas
- 2019 Graduate Certificate, STEM Education in Early Childhood, University of Arkansas
- 2019 M.A.T, Mid-Level Education, Harding University
- 2014 B.S.E., Elementary Education, University of Arkansas, Highest Distinction

## **Areas of Interest**

Education Policy, Cultural Capital and SEL, Homeschooling and related educational options

## **Professional Experience**

Assistant Research Professor, Johns Hopkins School of Education July 2021 to present

Senior Research Fellow, Johns Hopkins Institute for Education Policy, May 2019 to present

Contract Researcher, Theatre Forward, New York, 2017 to 2022

Arkansas Certified Teacher, Mid-Level Science, History, and ELA, 2019 to present

National Endowment for the Arts Research Lab, Co-researcher, spring 2017 to present

Academic Advisory Committee, Fayetteville School District, appointed fall 2018 to 2020

Assistant to the Editor, Journal of School Choice, appointed fall 2018 to spring 2019

Johns Hopkins Teaching Experience

- Developer and Instructor, Outside the Schoolhouse, summer 2022, 23

- Developer and Instructor, Diversity in the American Education System, fall 2021, 22, 23

University of Arkansas Teaching Experience

- Instructor, STEM 5203 Problem Based Mathematics, spring 2020

- Instructor, EDST 3113 Legal and Historical Developments in Education, fall 2018

- Co-Instructor, STEM 5023 Creativity and Innovation, spring 2018

University of Arkansas, Department of Education Reform

- Senior Graduate Assistant to Dr. Jay P. Greene, spring 2016 to spring 2019

Research Assistant to Dr. Robert Maranto, fall 2015 to spring 2016

### **Peer Reviewed Publications**

- Watson, A.** Inside the Black Box: Participant perceptions of what arts field trips matter. (under review at Urban Ed)
- Watson, A.** Investigating declining trends in arts field trip attendance. (ready to submit any day-planning to submit to AERA Open first.)
- Watson, A.** Native American/Great Plains (under review at Journal of School Choice- chosen because they promised fast publication and this is a timely article.)
- Erikson, H., **Watson, A.**, & Greene, J. (2022). An experimental evaluation of culturally enriching field trips. *Journal of Human Resources*.
- Bjorklund-Young, A., **Watson, A.**, & Passarella, A. (2022). Understanding Charter School Evaluation: A Synthesis of the Literature on CREDO's VCR Method for Stakeholders. *International Journal of Educational Reform*, 31(1), 25–43. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10567879211043466>
- Watson, A.** (2020). Parent-Created “Schools” in the US. *Journal of School Choice*. Available at <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/15582159.2020.1836801>
- Swanson, E., **Watson, A.**, & Ritter, G. (2020). *Promises Fulfilled? A systematic review of the impacts of Promise Programs*. Improving Research-Based Knowledge of College Promise Programs Edited Volume, Laura Perna, editor. Table of Contents available at: [https://www.aera.net/Portals/38/8607-B%20aera\\_BookFlyer2\\_PERNA\\_PRINT.pdf](https://www.aera.net/Portals/38/8607-B%20aera_BookFlyer2_PERNA_PRINT.pdf)
- Beck, D., **Watson, A.**, & Maranto, R. (2019). Do testing conditions explain cyber charter schools failing grades? *American Journal of Distance Education*, 33 (1), p46-58. Available at <https://eric.ed.gov/?id=EJ1204478>
- Watson, A.** (2018). Is homeschool cool? Current trends in American homeschooling. *Journal of School Choice*. Available at <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15582159.2018.1490378>
- Greene, J., Erickson, H., **Watson, A.**, & Beck, M. (2018). The play's the thing: Experimentally examining the social and cognitive effects of school field trips to live theater performances. *Education Researcher*. Available at: [https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf\\_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per\\_id=2604854](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per_id=2604854)
- Maranto, R., Trivitt, J., Nichols, M., & **Watson, A.** (2017). “No Contractual Obligation to Improve Education: School Boards and Their Superintendents,” *Politics and Policy* Vol. 45, No. 6 (August). Available at <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/polp.12216/pdf>

### **Other Publications & Invited Commentary**

- Watson, A.** (2022). Pandemic Pods and Alternative Modes of Education. *COVID-19 and the Classroom: How Schools Navigated the Great Disruption*. Book Chapter. Lexington Books.

- International School Choice and Reform Conference. January, 2021. Invited keynote moderator on Hybrid Homeschooling and panel discussant on Homeschool Research. Program available at <http://iscrweb.org/2021-iscrc/2021-agenda/>
- Watson, A.** (2021) Two new books on new schools—Hybrid homeschooling. Book review. *Journal of School Choice*. Available at <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15582159.2021.1924581?journalCode=wj-sc20>
- Wolf, P., Lee, M., & **Watson, A.** (2020). *Harvard Law professor's attack on homeschooling is flawed. And terribly timed, too*. Education Next blog. May 5, 2020. Available at <https://www.educationnext.org/harvard-law-professors-attack-on-homeschooling-flawed-failure-terribly-timed/> (Top 5 Ed Next Blog of 2020)
- Global Home Education Exchange Conference. Responding to the New Homeschool Challenge. November, 2020. Invited Speaker. Available at <https://ghex-virtual-summit.heysummit.com/talks/responding-to-the-new-homeschool-challenge/>
- Columbia Medical School, ASPIRE! Managing it all: Research, clinical, and life priorities during COVID: A peer mentoring series. October 2020. Invited presentation. Available at <https://www.aspirepeermentoring.com/events>
- Lee, M., **Watson, A.**, & Wolf, P. (2020). Homeschooling: Innocent until proven guilty. *Redefine ED*. Available at <https://www.redefinedonline.org/2020/05/homeschooling-innocent-until-proven-guilty/>
- Bjorklund-Young, A., & **Watson, A.** (2020). Suddenly homeschooling? A parent's survival guide to schooling during COVID-19. Available at <https://jscholarship.library.jhu.edu/bitstream/handle/1774.2/62952/COVID19HomeschoolingResource.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>
- Watson, A.** (2020). How the other half learns: Equality, excellence, and the battle over school choice. Book review. *Journal of School Choice*. Available at <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15582159.2020.1756716>
- Providence Public School District: A Review, June 2019. Available at <https://jscholarship.library.jhu.edu/bitstream/handle/1774.2/62961/ppsd-revised-final.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>
- Watson, A.** (2019). Homeschooling: The history and philosophy of a controversial practice. Book review. *Journal of School Choice*. Available at <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15582159.2019.1691853?journalCode=wj-sc20>
- Watson, A.** (2018). Greene grows the arts research in Arkansas. *Incite/Insight, American Alliance for Theatre and Education*, (3) p.32-35. Available at <https://view.joomag.com/2018-fall-incite-insight-incite-insight-2018-summer-4/0995738001536762042>
- Watson, A.**, Maranto, R., & Bell, D. (2018). The fall and rise of home education. *Homeschooling in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. Book chapter, Routledge, New York, NY, 2018.

- Watson, A.** (2018). The internal coherence framework; Creating the conditions for continuous improvement in schools. Book review. *Journal of School Choice*.
- Watson, A.** (2018). *Arts Afield*. National Endowment for the Arts Research Lab, University of Arkansas. Blog post available at: <https://nea-research-lab.uark.edu/arts-afield-feeling-a-little-exposed/> <https://nea-research-lab.uark.edu/arts-afield-cut-it-out/> <https://nea-research-lab.uark.edu/arts-afield-the-changing-of-the-guard/>
- Trivitt, J., Nichols, M., **Watson, A.**, & Maranto, R. (2016). School superintendents have no contractual obligation to improve learning. *Brookings, Brown Center Chalkboard*. Available at: <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/brown-center-chalkboard/2016/05/04/school-superintendents-have-no-contractual-obligation-to-improve-learning/>
- Advanced Placement in Arkansas: Increasing Equity (2016). *Office for Education Policy*, 13 (2). (Contributed as Lead Author) Available at: <http://www.officedforeducationpolicy.org/advanced-placement-in-arkansas-increasing-equity/>

### **Select Conference Presentations**

**Attended AERA in 2022- Asked to present at GHEX, presented 3 times at ISCRC this year. Virtually attended some during COVID**

- Watson, A.** (2020). *State of the Art: Declining Trends in Art Museum Field Trip Attendance*. Accepted at American Education Researcher Association Conference, San Francisco, CA, May 2020.
- Greene, J., Erickson, H., **Watson, A.**, Beck, M. (2018). *Multi-visit field trip study year two results*. Paper presented at Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Conference, Washington, D.C., November 2018.
- Greene, J., Erickson, H., **Watson, A.**, Beck, M. (2017). *The play's the thing: Experimentally examining the social and cognitive effects of school field trips to live theater performances*. Paper presented at the American Education Researcher Association Conference, New York City, NY, May 2018.
- Watson, A.** (2018). *Where all the girls at? School superintendent gender gap*. Poster presented at the Association for Education Finance and Policy Conference, Portland, OR, March 2018.
- Watson, A.** Beck, M.I. (2018). *College-Going in the Promise Land*. Poster presented at the Association for Education Finance and Policy Conference, Portland, OR, March 2018.
- Watson, A.**, Beck, M., Sude, Y., Ritter, G. (2017). *A promising culture: College going culture and the El Dorado Promise*. Poster presented at the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Conference, Chicago, IL, November 2017.
- Swanson, E., **Watson, A.**, Ritter, G., Nichols, M. (2017). *Promises fulfilled? A systematic review of the impacts of Promise Programs*. Paper presented at Improving research-based knowledge of college Promise Programs Conference, Penn AHEAD, Philadelphia, PA, October 2017.

**Watson, A.,** Maranto, R., Beck, D. (2017). *Do testing conditions explain cyber charter schools failing grades?* Paper presented at the American Education Research Association Conference, San Antonio, TX, May 2017.

**Watson, A.** (2017). *Differences in male and female students' STEM identity and course uptake.* Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance and Policy Conference, Washington D.C., March 2017.

*Insights into gender disparities in achievement, attitudes towards STEM fields and ultimate STEM pursuit (2017).* Panel discussant and presenter at the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Conference, Washington D.C., November 2016.

### **Media Coverage of Research**

The Importance of High Quality Curriculum in the Age of COVID, 2020. Available at <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/importance-high-quality-curriculum-in-age-covid/id403710198?i=1000501089425>

Another Benefit to Going to Museums? You May Live Longer. The New York Times, December 22, 2019. Available at <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/22/us/arts-health-effects-ucl-study.html>

*Why Rhode Island's Governor is taking Over Providence's Public Schools.* The Atlantic, October, 29, 2019. Available at <https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2019/10/rhode-island-governor-explains-providence-school-takeover/601003/>

*Education Hell Revisited.* The Wall Street Journal, August 28, 2019. Available at <https://www.wsj.com/articles/education-hell-revisited-11567033423>

*Alumni Aid Johns Hopkins Research Into Systemic Dysfunctions in Rhode Island School System.* UARK Newswire, July 3, 2019. Available at <https://news.uark.edu/articles/48468/alumni-aid-johns-hopkins-research-into-systemic-dysfunctions-in-rhode-island-school-system>

*Blistering Report Details Abject Dysfunction and Dangerous Schools in Providence, RI.* The Washington Post, June 26, 2019. Available at <https://www.washingtonpost.com/education/2019/06/26/blistering-report-details-abject-dysfunction-dangerous-schools-providence-ri/>

*The Condition of Providence's Schools had a review team in Tears.* The Boston Globe, June 25, 2019. Available at <https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/rhode-island/2019/06/25/team-hardened-school-reviewers-had-never-shed-tear-then-they-saw-providence-schools/u3lZeLaZqQXEjX32YjeCWN/story.html>

*An Education Horror Show.* The Wall Street Journal, June 7, 2019. Accessed at <https://www.wsj.com/articles/an-education-horror-show-11562532467>

*U of A Grad Tells Boozman about STEM Initiative,* University of Arkansas Newswire (June 23, 2014). Available at <http://newswire.uark.edu/articles/24520/u-of-a-grad-tells-boozman-about-stem-initiative>

**Service and Other Experience**

Johns Hopkins School of Education Curriculum Policy Committee, 2021 to present

Johns Hopkins School of Education Diversity and Equity Committee, 2022 to present

Johns Hopkins School of Education Diversity Course Ad Hoc Committee 2022 to present

The Academic Evidence of School Choice, Ed Choice Legislator Training presenter, August 2022, September 2022, September 2023 ( scheduled)

Expert Witness on homeschooling in civil suit, Michigan, 2022

Fordham Emerging Education Policy Scholar, 2022

University of Notre Dame, Reform Leaders' Summit, cohort 12 and 13 participant, 2020-22

National Endowment for the Arts, grants panelist, 2020

American Education Researcher Association, submissions reviewer, 2020-22

International School Choice & Reform Conference reviewer, 2020, 2022

Israel Field Research Seminar, education policy, school visits, and observation at multiple sites throughout Israel, 2018

Journal of School Choice, peer reviewer, 2018- present

Journal of Public Budgeting and Finance, peer reviewer, 2020