

Support from the Research Community for the Appointment of Ruth Curran Neild to Lead the Institute of Education Sciences (IES)

[Knowledge Alliance](#) has heard from numerous education leaders who applaud the appointment of Ruth Curran Neild to lead the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) at the U.S. Department of Education. Here are just some of the comments:

"In just over a decade, IES has made profound changes in the culture of education research, pushing for rigorous research design, focusing on innovative approaches to improving educational outcomes, and producing practical knowledge that can be scaled. As the commissioner of the National Center on Education Evaluation, Ruth Neild has worked effectively to maximize the positive impact of IES research on schools, teachers, and students. She is a great choice to lead the fine team at IES to continue to build our knowledge base of effective education policies and practices."

~ David J. Chard, dean at the SMU Simmons School of Education and Human Development and Chair of the National Board of Education Sciences

"IES has made immense strides in bolstering the rigor and relevance of education research in the US. Neild has played an especially important role in pushing for productive partnerships between researchers and policymakers."

~ Susan Dynarski, Professor of Economics, Education and Public Policy, University of Michigan

"I am delighted that Ruth Neild has been chosen to lead IES. I believe that she will provide the strong leadership that IES needs to retain and build on its success in sponsoring and disseminating high quality educational research."

~ Richard Murnane, Thompson Research Professor, Harvard Graduate School of Education

"Over its first 13 years, IES has transformed the field of education research and training. Dr. Neild is an outstanding choice to lead IES as it continues the important work of promoting rigorous research that provides credible guidance to education policy and practice."

~ Thomas Dee, Professor, Stanford Graduate School of Education

"Ruth Neild has impressed me as a leader who is committed to making sure that IES's work is useful to policymakers and practitioners. She is an excellent choice for an important role."

~ Bob Granger, former President of the William T. Grant Foundation and inaugural Chair of the National Board for Education Sciences

"Ruth Curran Neild is a terrific choice to lead IES. She brings to this role the vision, commitment and passion for what IES needs to do and is charged to do. They are lucky to have her serve in this role."

~ Rebecca A. Maynard, University Trustee Professor of Education and Social Policy, University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education and President of The Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness (SREE)

"Strong leadership at the helm of IES is absolutely essential in this difficult federal budget environment. With her experience as Commissioner of NCEE, Neild will provide continuity in the vision and work of this important agency, so that it can realize its mission of identifying what does and does not for whom and under what circumstances. Developing sturdy evidence of this sort is especially critical now as we seek to improving educational outcomes for all students, particularly those at risk of failure."

~ Anthony S. Bryk, President, Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching

"Ruth Neild has been a terrific commissioner of the National Center on Education Evaluation, increasing the capacity of IES to communicate its research to the field. I am confident that she will be a strong leader of the IES in its next phase of work."

~ Hiro Yoshikawa, Courtney Sale Ross University Professor, Steinhardt School, New York University

"To protect the integrity of education research, now more than ever, IES needs strong leadership. Neild will continue to raise the agency's profile and defend the value of rigorous evidence for improving American education."

~ Martin West, Associate Professor of Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education

"AERA extends congratulations and best wishes to Dr. Ruth Curran Neild in her new post as Deputy Director for Policy and Research at the Institute of Education Science (IES). In that new role, she has also been delegated the important duties of IES Director. Neild's commitment to excellence in research, evaluation, and dissemination is evident in her leadership role over the past three years as commissioner of the National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance. Hats off also to Sue Betka, Deputy Director for Administration and Policy, who has served as IES Acting Director since the departure of Dr. John Easton in August 2014."

~ Felice J. Levine, Executive Director, American Educational Research Association