Oral Defense Announcement
University of Missouri – St. Louis Graduate School

An oral examination in defense of the dissertation for the degree
Doctor of Education in Education with an emphasis in Educational Practice

Kimberly Carothers
M.A. in Public Relations, October 2013, Webster University
B.S. in Business Administration, May, 1993, Fontbonne University

Community Schools in St. Louis Then and Now: Exploring the Influence of Family, School, and Community Engagement on Student and Community Outcomes

Date: November 19, 2019
Time: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Place: Bayer Education Bio Lab - TLC

Abstract
All children should be provided with the American Dream of receiving a meaningful and equitable educational opportunity that prepares them to be successful in school and life thereafter. Today, many children are denied this dream over and over again. Minority and low-income children often face multiple barriers that stagnate their growth; resulting in equity and achievement gaps. Schools that implement the community schools strategy integrate resources and services from family, school, and community partners to prepare students for success in meeting the demands of the twenty-first century.

A qualitative case study was used to understand how the role of family, school, and community engagement influences the effectiveness of student and community outcomes. Archival research and in-depth interviewing focused on seeking a deeper understanding of how the views of individual groups of administrators, educators, families, and community organizations influence the effectiveness of community schools.

This study highlighted the following findings (1) Collaborative leadership practices, (2) Empowering families, (3) Relationship Development, and (4) Partnerships. These aspects are all related. Committed collaborative leadership practices creates opportunities for change in which trusting relationships are established with families to engage them in sharing responsibility of integrating their resources and supports that influence student and community outcomes.

Defense of Dissertation Committee
Theresa G. Coble, Ph.D. - chairperson
Matthew Davis, Ph.D.
Thomas R. Hoerr, Ph.D.