AERA SYMPOSIUM

MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2016 - 4:05-6:05PM Convention Center, Level One, Rm. 146 C

Reflecting on *Their Highest Potential* 20 Years Later: Implications for History, Policy, and Practice

Symposium Participants



James D. Anderson Edward William and Jane Marr Gutsgell Professor of Education University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana



Amy Stuart Wells Professor of Sociology and Education Teachers College and Columbia University



Maisha T. Winn Susan J. Cellmer Endowed Chair in English Education and Professor in Language and Literacy University of Wisconsin-Madison



Sheryl J. Croft Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership Kennesaw State University



Vanessa Siddle Walker Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Educational Studies Emory University

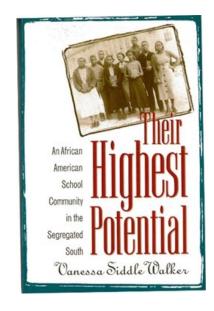
Symposium Co-Chairs

Joy Williamson-Lott

Professor, History of American Education University of Washington

Michelle A. Purdy Assistant Professor of Education

Washington University in St. Louis



Sponsor

Division F (History and Historiography)

Co-Sponsors

AERA Social Justice Action Committee (SJAC)

Division J (Postsecondary Education) Cross-Division Collaboration Taskforce

Critical Educators for Social Justice SIG (CESJ)

Research Focus on Black Education SIG (RFBE)

To mark the 20th Anniversary of Vanessa Siddle Walker's Their Highest Potential: An African American School Community in the Segregated South, this symposium will offer vibrant and thoughtful reflections that extend our understanding of *Their* Highest Potential as it relates to educational history, policy, and practice. Participants will share interdisciplinary perspectives on the work's historiographical significance; its import for considering desegregation, resegregation, and school choice; its relationship to literacy, social justice, teacher education, and black educational research; contemporary manifestations of theory, practice, and school leadership; and considerations of the work in light of what we know now about black educational history. This symposium signals the importance of amplifying African American voices, past and present, who speak to their respective contexts and experiences, and challenges us to consider if and how we take heed of their voices today.