Welcome to The SRI Homeroom

[Piano music fades in]

Every day millions of Americans wake up and go to work on behalf of the nation's students. From teachers and administrators to policymakers, researchers, and parents. From communities, to states, to the federal government. We're all working to improve education and create better outcomes for learners.

We also share a commitment to address the challenges within education. Whether they're new challenges we're just beginning to understand or complex historical challenges that have persisted for generations, we're united in the need for better information, contextualized answers, and sustainable solutions.

That's why we're launching The SRI Homeroom, a new podcast featuring down-to-earth conversations with some of the nation's most passionate researchers, developers, data experts, and educators.

It's a meeting place for professionals who have dedicated their careers to understanding some of the most difficult challenges facing American students, educators, and families. And it's a forum to discuss the important work that's happening right now to meet those challenges head-on.

We'll be discussing important work in areas including school improvement, literacy, and discipline:

"Nobody wants this outcome. Nobody wants kids expelled from preschool. Three-year-olds expelled from preschool. We're not giving up on kids. We're not giving up on kids ever. But we are certainly not giving up on them when they are three, four years old."

We'll dive into every level of America's education system, from early childhood:

"Parents are trying to enroll their kids in programs and they're having to go to four different agencies, potentially, trying to find the right services for their child. And that makes it hard."

То К-12:

"I really want to see technology used well and for good reasons. I want to see districts and educators using technology tools in ways that enhance the students' learning experience that help them get excited about learning."

To postsecondary education:

"Can you make a contribution that could actually put someone on the path to a completely new life and a completely new sense of belonging and confidence? Absolutely. Even small gestures can make a huge difference."

We'll discuss new tools and approaches for dealing with long-standing challenges:

"If we really think about what this digital platform can do, it can be used and scaled widely to a variety of settings and audiences. And I think we're only beginning to understand the depth of that capability."

And tools for dealing with some entirely new challenges:

"There's 500 hours of YouTube content uploaded every minute. There's just way too much, and we as adults, as researchers, as parents, as teachers, we don't know what kids are exposed to or how it affects them."

We'll discuss innovation, the value of evidence, and the ways that research, policy, and practice can intersect to help improve outcomes and reduce barriers for America's students:

"Let's talk about where we are around these issues and in the work. What are our beliefs? What are our mindsets? What are our values that are driving the decisions we're making?"

On The SRI Homeroom, we believe that the door to a better future should be open to everyone. We hope you can join us.

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