



HDR Researcher Profile

Name: Michael Hepi

Faculty of Education



Program: Doctor of Education

Thesis Title: What do stakeholders say about leadership of teacher and parent partnerships in STEM science in a NSW primary school.

Thesis description: STEM education and parent partnerships are global educational priorities. With rapidly evolving global economies, STEM education is vital to the future of environmental and economic sustainability, and parent engagement is seen as a critical element in improving student outcomes. As little is known about how teacher and parent partnerships support the process of curriculum design, the aim of the study is to examine the perspectives of school leaders and parents on effective partnerships in the design and delivery of STEM units. Of importance is the development of successful collaborative partnerships between teachers and parents in the design and delivery of STEM curriculum.

This study uses Wenger's Communities of Practice theoretical framework which will underpin the interplay between teachers and parents within the paradigms of relativism and interpretivism, under the overarching theory of social constructivism. A narrative inquiry using semi-structured interviews will guide this qualitative study.

Bio: 29 years teaching experience across multiple settings including rural and remote, and small and large primary and central schools. Experienced principal of 10 years across three schools. Passionate advocate for public education, NSW Teachers Federation state counsellor and state executive member. Enjoying the lifelong journey of learning and challenge. Environmental sustainability, global connections, and equality are front and centre. Love a surf. Proud dad, grandparent and husband.

Link to an existing researcher website:

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