

John Wang

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EDUCATION

University of Virginia	Expected 2026
Ph.D. in Education Policy	
M.P.P. Public Policy	
Mercer University	2019
M.A.T. Secondary Education – STEM	
Emory University	2018
B.S. Quantitative Science and B.A. Economics & Mathematics, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	
Georgia Mathematics Teacher Certification (6-12) & Gifted Endorsement	

WORKING PAPERS

Schueler, B., Nigro, L. & **Wang, J.** (Conditionally Accepted). Can States Sustain and Replicate School District Improvement? Evidence from Massachusetts on Multilevel Governance. *American Educational Research Journal*. Also [Annenberg Institute Working Paper No. 23-882](#).

Schueler, B., **Wang, J.** & Nigro, L. (Revise & Resubmit). The Impact of School District Turnaround on Postsecondary Outcomes: Evidence from Lawrence, Massachusetts. *Educational Researcher*. Also [Annenberg Institute Working Paper No. 25-1190](#).

SELECTED WORKS IN PROGRESS

Capturing Higher-Order Thinking Skills At Scale: Validity Evidence Toward Extant Item-Level Administrative Test Data as Indicators of Higher-Order Thinking Skills.

Inequality in Students' Higher-Order Thinking Skills.

Does School Turnaround Policy Compromise Higher-Order Thinking Skills?

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Does School Improvement Policy Compromise Higher-Order Thinking Skills?", Presenter, *American Education Research Association*, Denver, CO. 2025

"Empowering Youth through Participatory Action Research for Democracy and Justice," Co-Chair. *American Education Research Association*, Denver, CO. 2025

"Capturing Higher-Order Thinking Skills", Presenter, *Association for Education Finance and Policy*, Washington D.C. 2025

"Validity Evidence Toward Extant Item-Level Administrative Test Data as Indicators of Higher-Order Thinking Skills", Co-Presenter with Beth Schueler and James Soland, *SUMI Mini-Conference*, Washington, D.C. 2025

“The Associated Impacts of Debate Programming. Silicon Valley Urban Debate League” Presenter, VEST Research Partnership Student Conference, Charlottesville, VA.	2024
“Trends in Students’ Higher-Order Thinking Skills by Race and Class” Presenter, <i>American Education Research Association</i> , Philadelphia, PA.	2024
“School Funding Formula Woes—A Focus on Philadelphia School Funding Policies and Their Implementation,” Co-Chair, <i>American Education Research Association</i> , Philadelphia, PA.	2024
“The Impact of School District Improvement on Postsecondary Outcomes: Evidence from Lawrence, Massachusetts.” Presenter, <i>Association for Education Finance and Policy</i> , Baltimore, MD.	2024
“It's Not on the Test: Capturing Teachers' Full Effects.” Presenter, <i>American Education Research Association</i> , Chicago, IL.	2023
“Can States Sustain and Replicate School District Turnaround? Evidence from Massachusetts.” Presenter, <i>Association for Education Finance and Policy</i> , Denver, CO.	2023
“Introducing Data Science in Algebra I.” Presenter, <i>61st Annual Georgia Mathematics Conference</i> , Eaton, GA.	2020
“Anticipating and Addressing Mathematical Misconceptions.” Presenter, <i>Sixth National Convening of Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellows: Just Excellence</i> , Philadelphia, PA. (Cancelled due to Covid-19).	2020
“Crossing boundaries, Changing Culture: One Story at a Time.” Panelist, <i>Imagining America</i> , Davis, CA.	2017

GRANTS

University of Virginia School of Education and Human Development Dean’s Research and Development Fund, “Does School Turnaround Policy Compromise Higher-Order Thinking Skills?” \$1,000, Principal Investigator. 2025-2026.

Walton, Gates, and Joyce Foundations administered by the Urban Institute (Student Upward Mobility Initiative), “Do Critical Thinking Skills Predict Student Upward Mobility?” \$100,000, Project Director with Beth Schueler (PI) and James Soland (Co-PI). 2024-2025.

University of Virginia Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion, “Students of Education Engaged in Diversity Scholarship (SEEDS) for Change Teach-Ins” (\$1,500), Co-PI with Liz Nigro (PI), Allison Ward-Seidel (Co-PI), Owen Silverman Andrews (Co-PI), and Dennis Williams (Co-PI).

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Bankard Fund for Political Economy Pre-Doctoral Fellowship (\$18,900), <i>University of Virginia</i>	2025-2026
PhD Plus Professional Development Award (\$1,862), <i>University of Virginia</i>	2025
IES Pre-Doctoral Fellowship–Virginia Education Sciences Training (\$34,000/yr), <i>University of Virginia</i>	2021-2025
IES Pre-Doctoral Fellowship–Travel Funds (\$2,000/yr), <i>University of Virginia</i>	2021-2025
Division L Graduate Student Representative (\$1,000/yr), <i>American Education Research Association</i>	2023-2025
Division L Graduate Student Funding (\$130), <i>American Education Research Association</i>	2024
Education Leadership, Foundations & Policy Student Travel Funds (\$185), <i>University of Virginia</i>	2023
Just Education Policy (\$200), <i>University of Georgia</i>	2022

Future Leader Initial NCTM Annual Meeting Attendance Award (\$1,500), <i>NCTM MET</i>	2021
Love of Learning Award (\$500), <i>Phi Kappa Phi</i>	2019
Outstanding MAT Student in Education (<i>Selective, 1/98</i>), <i>Mercer University</i>	2019
WW Teaching Fellowship (\$30,000), <i>Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation</i>	2018
D.V.S. Senior Honor Society (<i>Highly Selective, 7/~2,500</i>), <i>Emory University</i>	2017
Emory College Alumni Board Scholar (<i>Highly Selective, 1/~1,500</i>), <i>Emory University</i>	2016

RESEARCH PARTNER TECHNICAL REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Wang, J. The Associated Impacts of Debate Programming. Silicon Valley Urban Debate League.	2024
Wang, J. Simulated Impact of Accounting for Teachers' Non-Cognitive Skill Contributions in Teacher Evaluation. Denver Public Schools.	2023
Atteberry, A., Engel, M., Wang, J. LEAP Cut Scores: Identifying New Cut Scores in Response to SB 70. Denver Public Schools.	2022

MEDIA COVERAGE

Jonas, M. (2024). [State exit from Holyoke puts spotlight on mixed takeover record](#). *CommonWealth Beacon*.

RELEVANT RESEARCH EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

IES Pre-Doctoral Fellow, University of Virginia	2021-Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examined the impacts of district takeover on medium-term outcomes and across contexts with Beth Schueler Evaluated the effects of a debate education program in Rwanda with Beth Schueler Simulated the impact of Colorado's SB-070 on teacher evaluation with Allison Atteberry and Mimi Engel 	
Policy and Evaluation Intern, Bellwether Education Partners, Inc.	Summer 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed a flexible dashboard in R to monitor organizational KPIs Conducted qualitative research to improve clients' processes for working with marginalized students 	
Research Assistant, University of Virginia	Summer 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed research literature on capturing college quality Cleaned National Student Clearinghouse data 	
RPO Strategic Planning & Risk Management Intern, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta	Summer 2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explored and forecasted factors impacting retail payment volumes Developed a Tableau dashboard that monitored significant changes to global, industry, and end-user factors 	

GRADUATE COURSES IN STATISTICS AND METHODOLOGY

Research Methods and Data Analysis II	Design and Analysis of Field Experiments
Causal Inference	Advanced Topics in Impact Evaluation
Survey Design and Instrument Construction	Educational Assessment in Context (Mercer)
Machine Learning and Data Mining	Exploratory Text Analytics

ADDITIONAL WORKSHOP TRAINING

Critical Theories To Analyze Large-Scale Datasets, <i>American Education Research Association</i>	2025
AI for Social Scientists, <i>University of Virginia</i>	2025
Cognitive Diagnosis Modeling: A General Framework Approach and Its Implementation in R, <i>American Education Research Association</i>	2024
Graphical Models for Causal Inference, <i>University of Virginia</i>	2024
Open Sciences, <i>University of Virginia</i>	2023

Improving the External Validity of Impact Studies Through Better Design, Analysis, and Reporting: A Workshop for Applied Education Researchers, <i>University of Virginia</i>	2023
Emergent Computational Methods for Qualitative Educational Research, <i>University of Virginia</i>	2022
Data Visualization and Descriptive Research, <i>University of Virginia</i>	2022
Measurement and IRT, <i>University of Virginia</i>	2022

TEACHING

Guest Lecture for Education Policy Capstone, University of Georgia	2025
Workshop Instructor for Open Doors Program, University of Virginia	2022, 2023
Tutor, C2 Education	2021
Mathematics Teacher, Gwinnett County Public Schools	2019-2020
Mathematics Teacher, Houston County Public Schools	2018-2019
Teaching Assistant, Emory University	2017

MEMBERSHIPS

American Education Research Association and Association for Education Finance and Policy

SELECTED SERVICE

Graduate Student Representative, <i>Division L</i> , American Education Research Association	2023, 2024, 2025
Graduate Student Mentor/Organizer, <i>Open Doors</i> , University of Virginia	2022, 2023, 2024
Education Policy Associate Mentor, <i>Education Policy Associates</i> , University of Virginia	2022, 2023, 2024
Student Representative, <i>VEST Steering Committee</i> , University of Virginia	2023
Executive Committee Member, DEI Interdisciplinary Research Working Group, University of Virginia	2023
Student Representative, <i>Committee on Curriculum, Assessment, and Educational Policy</i> , Emory University	2018
Art Research Symposium Organizer, <i>Emory Undergraduate Research</i> , Emory University	2016

PAID CONSULTING

Silicon Valley Urban Debate League	2025-Present
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