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Council of the Great City Schools

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Council Honors San Francisco School Officials for Excellence in Research

WASHINGTON, July 12 – The research team at the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) was recently presented with the “Informing Progress in Urban Education” Research Award at the Council of the Great Schools’ Curriculum, Research and Instructional Leaders Meeting in Portland, Ore. Sponsored by NWEA, the award honors excellence in the field of research and evaluation across urban school districts.

The award was presented to Dr. Norma Ming and her team in SFUSD’s Research, Planning, and Assessment Division. In addition to supporting external research projects and partnerships, the team conducts internal program evaluations to address key district priorities, prepares data and analytical reports to guide decision-making, and supports leaders in using evidence for continuous improvement.

Norma Ming, Ph.D., is manager of research and evaluation in SFUSD where she oversees the district’s research portfolio and leads internal evaluations. Building on over 25 years of experience in education, including training as a cognitive psychologist, her work focuses on establishing and studying the conditions and supports that enable integrating research and practice for continuous improvement in education.

“This award honors the SFUSD research team for their excellent work in evaluation and research of district investments and strategies,” said Dr. Akisha Osei Sarfo, the Council’s director of research. “The SFUSD team continues to employ exemplary research methodology that holds as a model for other research teams across urban school districts.”

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