

Improving EdTech Research

a Legal, Ethical, and Technical
Framework for Inclusive R&D

SESSION MODERATOR



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SESSION PRESENTERS



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Introductions

- I am (professional version)
- I am (personal version)
- I am here because:
- What are the challenges/issues you see in the Educational R&D Space?

What should we make sure to cover?



What this session is!

- Cleanser
- Simplifier
- No More Reinventing Wheels
- An explicit recognition that a multidisciplinary team is required

Edtech needs R&D

At some point, we need to be able to show if and how things work.

At some point, we need to be able to demonstrate why we build what we build.

Researchers need trust, and that trust needs to be earned and maintained.

All of our work becomes easier and better when it's grounded in a legal, ethical, and technical framework that explicitly centers and respects the lived experience of participants.

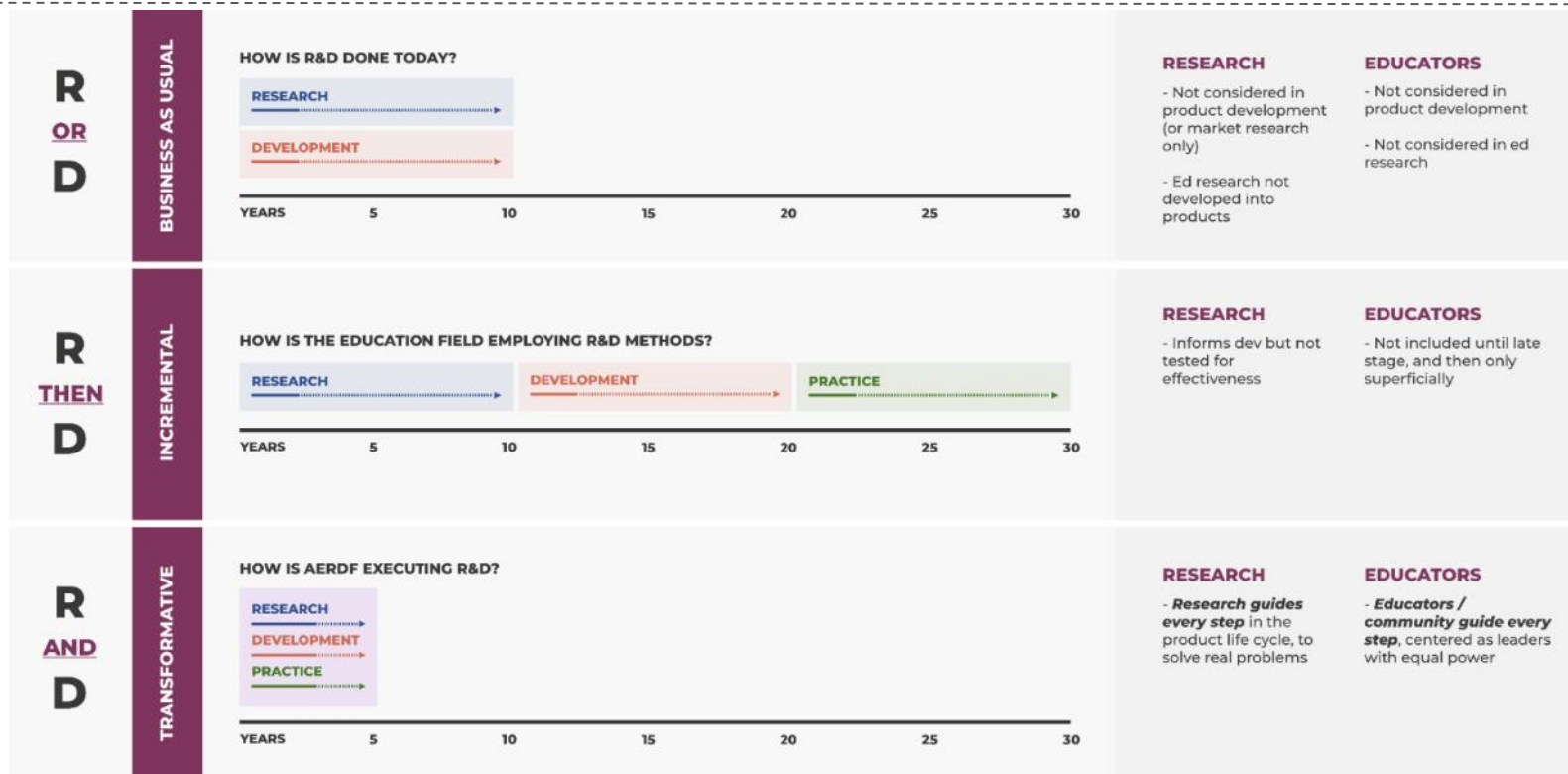
Do we know the difference between intent and impact?

Inclusive Research and Development

- “assembling teams that include classroom teachers as front-end decision makers,
- grounding those efforts in the science of learning, and
- piloting projects that center equity to create practices and tools that are useful and usable by teachers and students.”

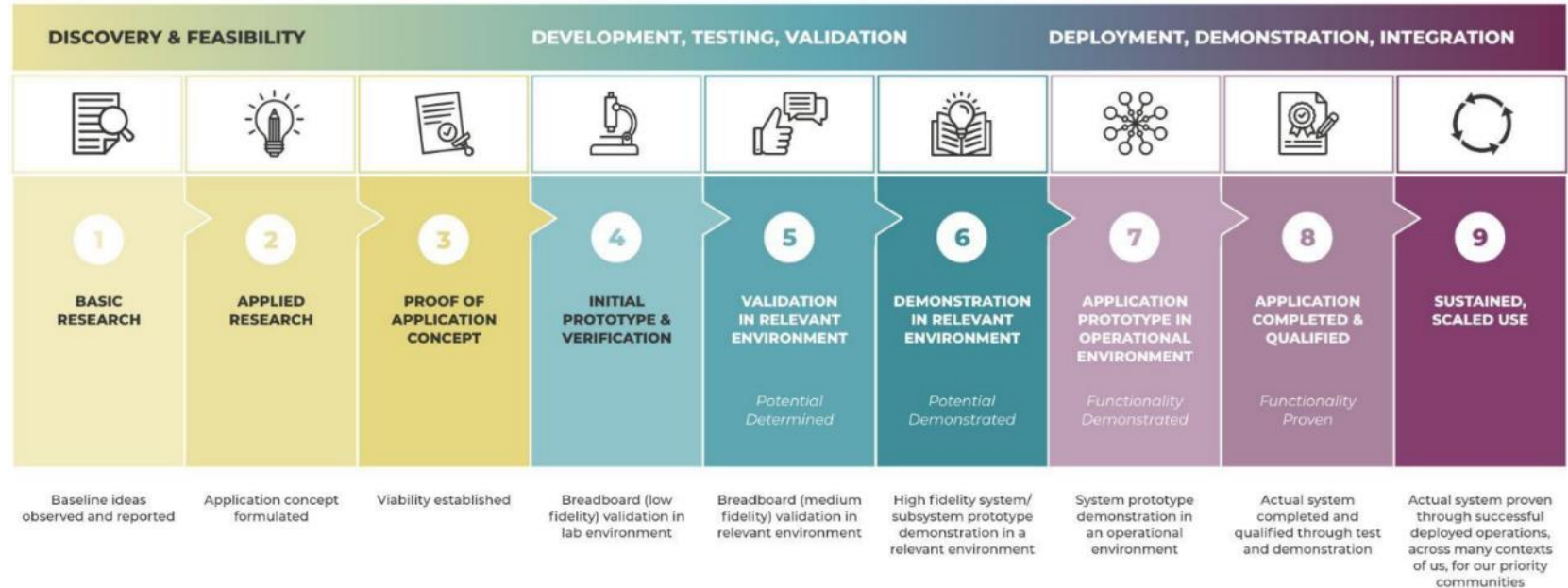
From [Inclusive R&D Centers Educator Voice. It's Already Changing the Face of Math Instruction.](#)

What is R and D?



Project Readiness Levels

PROJECT READINESS LEVELS (PRLs)



Adapted by Dr. Melina Uncapher from NASA's [Technology Readiness Levels \(TRLs\)](#)

Legal Foundations

What makes a relationship real?

- District Data Sharing Agreements
- Partnerships
- MOUs, DSAs, DPAs
- Applying Existing Laws to New Technology (FERPA, etc)
- Following New Laws (consumer privacy and child privacy laws, legislative tracking, and policies)

Don't reinvent [the wheel](#)!

Ethical Foundations

Just because you can doesn't mean you should.

- Expanding Past (Often Exempted) IRB Research
- Human Subjects/Human Factors
- Consent/Assent
- Bias
- Positional Power

Supporting [Documentation](#)

Technical Foundations

Fancy != Better

- R&D Infrastructure
- Data Security
- Data Minimization
- Focused Collection
- Transport and Storage
- Automated Reporting
- Incident Response

One Approach

- Project [Onboarding Roadmap](#)
- Outlines the basics of ethics reviews, consent/assent checklists, risk analysis, data management plans, data handling guidelines, assessment of human factors and human subjects research, etc

Questions?

Feel free to follow up!

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