

**Revised Sept 2020**

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Kristie's expertise spans policy, research, and practice. Her P-3 work is anchored in collaborations with school districts, state agencies, and early learning stakeholders. Her research interests straddle the paradigmatic, pedagogical, and policy divides that exist between birth-to-five and K-12 systems. Kristie focuses on both the organizational reforms and the cognitive sensemaking necessary to build learning continua that support children's development, learning, and lifelong success.

Kristie holds a B.A. in political science from Colorado College, an M.A. in international development from American University, and a doctorate in early childhood policy from Teachers College at Columbia University.