Background: Playground Physics Program

- **Goal:** Improve physics learning in middle schools
- **What is the program?**
  - App
  - Curriculum
  - Professional development for teachers and coaches
  - Online community of practice
Background: Experience with the i3/EIR Program

Timeline & Key Stakeholders

- i3 Development grant in New York City (2012-2017)
- EIR mid-phase project in New York State (2018-2022)
- Program officers-Policy and project management perspective
- Project Partners-Research/practice partnership
  - American Institute for Research
  - NYSCATE (New York State Association for Computers and Technologies in Education)
From the Policy and Management Perspective

- Having access to the EIR policy regulations
  - Management
  - Reporting
  - Budget
  - IRB
  - Dissemination
- Sharing widely with all program stakeholders
- Reviewing them with both your PO and partners
Engaging with PO

- Have the lead-PI be the contact with PO
- Establish both a professional and personal rapport with PO
- Familiarize PO with your project
- Introduce all partners and staff to PO
Engaging with PO (cont.)

- Establish monthly meetings with PO
  - Create the agendas for these meetings
  - Inquiry about grant updates and funding situation
- Share critical challenges
- Seek guidance on unexpected situations
- Provide six-month preliminary reports
- Seek guidance as you write your annual reports
- Require critical review of annual reports
From the Research-Practice Perspective

- Managing partnership
  - Create short version of scope of work for each year
  - Clear roles and responsibilities among project partners
    - Project institution lead
    - Project team leads
    - Each institution project team
  - Consistent weekly and biweekly meetings
    - Create meeting agendas
    - Issue-oriented meeting agendas
    - Review action-steps
    - Use them to plan ahead
From the Research-Practice Perspective (cont.)

- Developing and implementing innovation in real schools

- Practice expertise:
  - Program design – pedagogy and education technology
  - Local knowledge about teaching and learning
  - Ongoing support

- Research expertise:
  - Recruitment strategies
  - Fidelity of implementation study
  - RCT study
  - Evaluation technical assistance
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