“Getting Down to Business: How Neoliberalism is Eroding the Democratic Mission of K-12 Public Education”

With the goal of preparing educated and engaged citizens, public schooling has long been a cornerstone of a democratic society. But the creeping influence of neoliberalism has recast students as workers and consumers, narrowing the focus to economic competitiveness. At the same time, levels of segregation and inequity rival those before the *Brown vs. Board* decision declared segregation “inherently unequal.”

This talk will examine how neoliberal ideology affects K-12 policy and classroom practice, and the implications for educational equity. The talk will look at current and past policies, the lead-up to test-based accountability, the clout of corporate interests, and the hidden ways inequities are replicated in classrooms. To counter these trends, the speaker will present ways to reclaim the public mission of schooling, with an emphasis on classroom practice.

**Speaker: Susan Santone, University of Michigan School of Education**

*Author, Reframing the Curriculum: Design for Social Justice and Sustainability*

**Friday, Sept. 13, 2019**

10:30 a.m. – Noon

Kellogg Center – Rm 61

Zoom: [https://msu.zoom.us/j/957852791](https://msu.zoom.us/j/957852791)

The Friday Forum provides a venue for MSU faculty, staff, students and administrators to discuss the transformation of public higher education through the imposition of market logic and relations.

Visit FutureU to learn more about neoliberalism and public higher education: