

Meet the Presenters

Speaker

Biography



Ken Davis is a mathematics consultant with DPI. Prior to joining DPI three years ago, he taught high school mathematics and was a mathematics coach in the Beloit School District for over 20 years. As a teacher and coach, Ken worked with teachers throughout the district on improving mathematics instruction and student understanding. At DPI, Ken helped to develop the Launch-Explore-Summarize-Reflect-Apply (LESRA) Mathematics Instructional Framework, is a member of the Promoting Excellence for All Task Force, and leads the on-going work of building mathematics teaching and learning networks across the state.



Marci Glaus is the ELA education consultant for DPI. She is a former high school English teacher and middle school reading teacher. She completed her PhD at UW-Madison in Curriculum and Instruction. Her research focuses on New Literacy studies, text complexity, and English Language Arts teachers' transition to the Common Core State Standards. Her work has been published in the *Wisconsin State Reading Association Journal*, *Wisconsin English Journal*, and *The Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy*. She is an active member of the Wisconsin State Reading Association high school literacy committee, and serves as the DPI liaison to the Wisconsin Council for Teachers of English and the Wisconsin High School Forensics Association.



Madeline Hafner is the executive director of the Minority Student Achievement Network (MSAN) at the Wisconsin Center for Education Research (WCER), University of Wisconsin-Madison. MSAN is a national coalition of multiracial, suburban-urban school districts working together to understand and eliminate racial opportunity/achievement gaps that persist within their schools. In her role she works with educators and researchers to carry out the mission of MSAN by collaboratively designing and conducting research, analyzing policies, and examining practices that affect the academic performance of students of color. Her research and teaching interests focus on developing educators' attitudes and beliefs regarding issues of diversity, equity, and social justice and collaborative university-school partnerships.



Dr. Roxie Hentz has more than 25 years of experience in education, including service as a culturally responsive teacher leader, district-wide teacher mentor, university teacher-in-residence, adjunct professor, and classroom teacher. Currently she works for DPI as a Title I education consultant. She is also the founder and Chief Executive Officer of CEOs of Tomorrow, LLC, a company offering interdisciplinary and experiential curriculum for social entrepreneurship education. Dr. Hentz has won numerous awards for her work, including the Fulbright Distinguished Teacher Award, Wisconsin's Economic Teacher of the Year, and Jammin' 98.3 Black History Maker Award. She earned her BA in education, her MBA, and her doctorate in education and leadership.



Mary Ann Hudziak is a data coach on instructional services and is the coordinator of ESEA, Title I, Gifted & Talented, and curriculum at CESA 6. She is also one of six CESA consultants working on the WISExplore Team. This team, in collaboration with DPI, develops professional development and training for data use and data inquiry in Wisconsin. Mary Ann also serves on the Wisconsin Math Council Board. Mary Ann has experience in technology integration, and administration in the areas of curriculum, instruction, and assessment. She also has teaching experience in middle school and high school mathematics and science.



Jacqueline Jolly-Walton is an education consultant on the Title I team at DPI. Her primary work focuses on providing technical assistance, guidance, and monitoring to Priority Schools. Jacqueline has over 15 years service in the field of education including teaching in Montessori, charter and public schools. She is also an adjunct professor in undergraduate courses for pre-service teachers, and in graduate level courses for educators pursuing school administration licensure. Jacqueline spent the last eight years prior to working at DPI providing leadership and support at the district level centered on school reform efforts and serving as a district level administrator and an elementary principal in large, urban districts.



Ruth Anne Landsverk is the family engagement coordinator on the DPI Title I team. She's had the privilege to work in family engagement at DPI for the past 24 years and be part of a program that received the Partnership State Award from the National Network of Partnership Schools six times. Ruth Anne has also served as a special assistant to the state superintendent, director of communications for the Wisconsin Association of School Boards, publications editor and newspaper reporter. She truly enjoys building awareness of the many gifts that families bring to the education and success of Wisconsin students.



RunningHorse Livingston is the founder and CEO of Mathematize Inc., whose mission is to promote mathematics education and mathematically-related opportunities for all students. RunningHorse, a nationally recognized educator and consultant, has spent 13 years helping teachers across the country define their roles in the age of Common Core standards and making schools more constructive places for children. He is an expert in mathematics instruction and school reform. For the past 10 years, he has provided professional development to teachers, school administrators, school boards, and districts around the nation in the areas of mathematics, professional relations, and cognitive coaching. RunningHorse's hundreds of hands-on workshops and conference presentations are known for being thoughtful, practical, and entertaining.



Kathy Lyngaas worked in the Madison Metropolitan School District for 35 years in Communicative Disorders, professional development, and school and district improvement. In the last five years, she has continued working in school and district improvement at the UW-Madison and DPI, providing direct support to priority high schools receiving a School Improvement Grant in Milwaukee. As an education consultant on the Title I team she works with turnaround schools, the Spotlight Grant program and leadership development initiatives.



Kristin Moisson is currently the principal of Jackson Elementary, a School of Recognition in the Janesville school district. Kristin has held many roles in Janesville including early childhood special education program support teacher, early learning coordinator, and Title I coordinator. She began their community Early Learning Initiative, developing the Janesville Early Learning Curriculum Guide, the development of which led to a collaborative 4k model in Janesville. Kristin then became the early learning coordinator for this program. Kristin has her BS in Special Education and Master's degree in educational administration. She has teaching experience in early childhood special education, elementary special education SLD, EBD and ID in Illinois, Iowa, California and Wisconsin.



Kristine has worked on the Title I team at DPI for the last 4 years. She currently works with CESA 8, the DPI AmeriCorps VISTA program, Priority Schools, and is a state co-coordinator for the Education for Homeless Children and Youth program. She previously worked in family engagement in low income schools and served as an AmeriCorps VISTA member for two years. She has her BS in Human Development and Family Studies from UW-Madison.



Mary Louise Peters is the statewide coordinator for early childhood cross-sector professional development and the WI Model Early Learning Standards. She supports state initiatives within early care and education, health/mental health and family leadership. She also serves as a consultant with the Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center at Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute at UNC-Chapel Hill. Mary Louise previously led the early childhood special education discretionary grant projects and initiatives at DPI. Mary's work as a teacher has been with children, families and community partners in early childhood special education and Montessori multi-age early education/kindergarten. In addition, she is a Courage and Renewal Facilitator® prepared by the Center for Courage and Renewal.



Justyn Poulos is an assistant director of the Wisconsin Response to Intervention (RtI) Center/Wisconsin Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Network. Justyn's job focus is in the area of PBIS. The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and the Wisconsin CESA Statewide Network (CSN) collaboratively formed the Wisconsin RtI Center in 2009 to provide professional development and support for the implementation of an RtI framework. Justyn has been in a leadership role with the Center for over five years. Prior to his work with the Wisconsin RtI Center, he worked as a school psychologist in Wisconsin, Arizona, and Alaska and was involved in data-based decision making, mentoring, crisis planning, and group-based interventions.



Suzette Preston serves as the director of the Appleton Area School District 4K program. This program serves over 950 students in 20 community and four school host sites. Ms. Preston provides support to community site directors and principals, as well as teachers and assistants in implementing 4K curriculum in a play-based model of learning. She also provides coordination support for the Appleton Even Start Family Literacy program, a collaboration between Fox Valley Technical College and the Appleton Area School District, to support adults and their children in meeting their literacy, education, parenting and employment goals.



Jeff Ryan has been teaching social studies at Prescott High School for the past 27 years. His current teaching assignments include Advanced Placement U.S. History, World Geography, Civics, and First Nations History. His First Nations History course has been offered for college credit through the UW-Green Bay since 2012. Ryan has presented at universities, state and national conferences, and many civic organizations throughout his teaching career. He has been featured as an Act 31 Exemplar by UW-Madison and appeared on public television and radio. He has received a Kohl Teaching Fellowship, the Ron Satz "Friend of Indian Education" Award, Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year Award, and been named Prescott's Community Volunteer of the Year twice.



Kathy Ryder has been the Director of the Wisconsin Response to Intervention Center/Wisconsin Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Network since 2009 when it was formed collaboratively by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and the Wisconsin CESA Statewide Network (CSN). It is the driving force in the guidance and implementation of Response to Intervention framework in school systems across Wisconsin. Kathy has been an educator for twenty years in the states of California, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. Prior to 2009, Kathy was a special education teacher and more recently was employed by CESA 10 as a REACH Center Coordinator and an education consultant for Specific Learning Disabilities.



Kelly Ryder is the program director for the Healthy, Safe and Respectful Schools Program, and a consultant for RtI, PBIS, school improvement and educator effectiveness on the Instructional Services and Professional Development team at CESA 11. She is also one of six CESA consultants working on the WISExplore Team. This team, in collaboration with DPI, provides professional development and training for data use and data inquiry in Wisconsin schools. Kelly is certified as a principal and director of instruction and has experience as a high school social studies teacher and at-risk coordinator. She also spent two years as the director of programs at five Boys and Girls Clubs in northern Wisconsin.



Barbara Sims is associate director of the National Implementation Research Network and co-director of the national State Implementation and Scaling-up of Evidence-based Practices (SISEP) Center in the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She has 30 years of experience in education as a teacher, administrator and consultant. She has worked in private, public, and state education agency settings. Dr. Sims' current focus is the application of implementation research to the education field.



Mike Thompson was appointed Deputy State Superintendent when State Superintendent Tony Evers took office in July 2009. Prior to his current position, Mike served as the Executive Assistant to then State Superintendent Libby Burmaster. Previous to these positions, he served as the Department's Federal Policy Advisor. Mike has a doctorate in Education Administration and has taught for ten years in Wisconsin public schools. Mike's previous positions at DPI include education consultant, director of student services, and assistant state superintendent.



Heidi Thuli is an assistant director of the Wisconsin Response to Intervention (RtI) Center. Heidi's job focus is in the area of academic instruction and support. The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and the Wisconsin CESA Statewide Network (CSN) collaboratively formed the Wisconsin RtI Center in 2009 to provide professional development and support for the implementation of a Response to Intervention framework. She has been in a leadership role with the Center for over five years. Before assuming her current role with the Center, Heidi worked as an educational consultant with the Cooperative Educational Service Agencies (CESAs) in Wisconsin. Her roles have included school improvement consulting and mentoring, director of instructional services, coordinator of alternative education, and classroom teacher.



Heidi Walter is an education consultant on the Title I team at DPI. Heidi has worked in education for 14 years serving students and educators in order to increase student achievement. Most of her experience has been around literacy, RtI, and school improvement practices. Her various roles include classroom teacher, interventionist, reading specialist, instructional coach, and curriculum specialist. Heidi has worked at the local, regional and state level to support educators on increasing student achievement.



Dr. Chrishirella F. Warthen is an education consultant on the Title I team at DPI. In her current role, she fulfills responsibilities as a Title I grant manager; advancing statewide work for Family & Community Engagement, Promoting Excellence for All and culturally responsive practices. Dr. Warthen has also worked on DPI's Special Education team on IDEA discretionary grant management, local performance plan consultation, and providing technical assistance, guidance and support to disproportionate school districts. She has over 22 years of experience in PK-12 education and higher education. Dr. Warthen's research is focused on the trajectory of black girls and the intersectionality of education/incarceration, social identity/culture.



Aundrea Worthing joined the DPI Title I team in September 2012 as an education consultant. She currently works with CESA 6 and CESA 7, Focus Schools, Family Engagement, Title I application guidance, and Neglected and Delinquent Youth. She has also served on many cross-departmental committees. Prior to coming to DPI, Aundrea served as an elementary school administrator for nine years, a middle school and high school counselor for six years, a teen parent coordinator for CESA 3 for four years, and a preschool teacher in a parochial school and with the Head Start Program for five years.



Mary Jo Ziegler is the education consultant for CESA 2 with the Title I Team at DPI. School improvement planning and leadership development are important components of her work when supporting Focus Schools and the Title I Network. Mary Jo has 30 years of experience in education, including 20 years of classroom and building-level literacy leadership in grades K-8, 3-8 district literacy resource teacher, K-12 literacy coordinator, and PK-12 director of instruction, in both large and small districts within the state of Wisconsin. These diverse leadership roles have given her a broad perspective on school and district organizational reform.



Beth Zingler is a graduate of UW-Madison with a degree in Elementary Education. She teaches five year old kindergarten in Lena, WI and serves on the executive board for the Wisconsin Kindergarten Association as the DPI Liaison. She facilitates the teacher caucus and is a member of the planning committee for the Preserving Early Childhood Collaborative Leadership Forum.



Jonas Zuckerman is the Title I Director at the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI). He has worked at DPI since 2009, also serving as an Education Consultant and Assistant Director of the Title I team. Jonas has worked in education for 24 years. Prior to joining DPI, he worked as an educator in the Oakland (California) Unified School District at both the elementary and secondary levels. Jonas has a wide range of educational experience, including designing history standards and assessments, coaching beginning teachers, and designing developmentally appropriate elementary report cards. At DPI, he has led projects such as School Turnaround, Milwaukee Public Schools District Improvement Planning, and Promoting Excellence for All.