
OESU Assistant Superintendent Search

Final Candidates

Anda Adams



I am a teacher and a learner. More formally, I am a senior level leader with experience working across the education sector. Over the past twenty years, my work in education has included teaching in a first/second grade classroom in the Pacific Northwest, advising a southern state education agency on how to expand early childhood educational opportunities, increasing access to schools for girls in Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa, and district leadership of curriculum and instruction in Washington State and Massachusetts. Working in such a variety of places across the country and around the world has strengthened my drive to ensure equitable opportunities, deeper learning, and improved outcomes for all children. Two key ways I have done this are by building growth-oriented leadership teams and amplifying student and educator voice in decision-making. In my most recent position as an assistant superintendent in an urban school district, I led the development of a district-wide instructional framework to ensure rigorous, joyful, and culturally responsive education for all students, oversaw significant curriculum updates across all content areas and grade levels, and revised the existing assessment system to focus on feedback to students and usable information for educators. Finally, I am on a (not-so) secret mission to connect all young people to the outdoors, whether that is digging in an urban garden for an afternoon or taking off on a multi-day backpacking adventure. You can find me doing both and everything in between to stay healthy, get centered, and be happy

Randall (Randy) Gawel



Thank you for this opportunity to introduce myself and to talk, albeit briefly, about the career I so dearly love. In many ways, school saved me, as I was a wayward youth who needed more guidance and kindness than most, received it, and was inspired to do the same for others. I am passionate about providing opportunities for students and staff to grow; throughout my career, I have collaborated with all stakeholders to provide opportunities intended to foster meaningful growth and development for both people and programs. Though there are well researched techniques, structures, and procedures that provide a foundational framework for successful educational environments, these can only thrive when those who enact them feel supported. It is the people - not books, not brick and mortar, not state mandates - striving towards a common purpose that makes education a magical process. Finally, while my career in Michigan has afforded me with tremendous opportunities for personal and professional growth, I am ready to come home. You see, I grew up in Franconia, NH, pursued my undergraduate degree at Lyndon State College, and attended Boston College for graduate school. There, I met my wife Leah, a Michigander, and post-graduation, we moved to the Detroit area and raised our family. In the time I have spent in Michigan, I have taught, coached, mentored, received another graduate degree, and had the privilege of serving as an administrator at some of the finest school districts in the state. That said, I am eager to move to Vermont as our children attend Dartmouth College, much of our family resides in New England, and no matter how often Detroiters claim to make the best pizza, they can't hold a candle to Colatina!

Marla Ianello



With 3 decades of experience across three large systems, I have a breadth of experiences that informs my work: human services, community health and public education. The core of my work puts children and families at the center of data-driven decision making, policy writing and implementation, and teaming strategically around action plans.

For 8 years I have worked at Orange East Supervisory Union, 6 as a Vermont administrator. As the current Interim Principal at Bradford Elementary School, I have led a team of professionals through the complexities of public education during a pandemic.

I take a systems and structures approach to organizational development, looking for the places where links of communication are needed, including developing teams with particular strengths and perspectives to promote a goal. I completed the Vermont Superintendents Association Leadership Academy in 2020 and will complete my certificate in School Leadership and Management through Harvard Business School in 2021.

I have a deep regard for my chosen community, moving to Vermont in 1991. I have volunteered for my recreation department, library, and countless other local projects. My professional experience has been enriched as an artist and skidder operator (in fairness, I only lasted a day and half).

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