

KURT A. SCHNEIDER

ACADEMIC PREPARATION

Ph.D. Educational Administration, University of Wisconsin – Madison, Spring 2004
M.S. Special Education, University of Wisconsin – Madison, 2000
B.S. Special Education, University of Wisconsin – Madison, 1995
Certificate, Coalition for Leading Anti-Racist Schools, UW-Madison, 2024.
Certificate, Closing the Achievement Gap, Harvard University, July 8-12, 2010.
Certificate, Critical Issues in Urban Special Education, Harvard University, July 2008.

K-12 ADMINISTRATIVE/TEACHING LICENSES

Superintendent, PK-12, (Wisconsin: Lifetime; Illinois 2013)
Director of Instruction, PK-12, (Wisconsin: Lifetime; Illinois Administrative 2013).
Director, Special Education/Pupil Services, (Wisconsin: Lifetime; Illinois 2013).
Principal, PK-12, (Wisconsin: Lifetime; Illinois Administrative 2013)
Special Education Teacher, Cognitive Disabilities: K-12, (Wisconsin: 2000-2005).

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

District Level

Superintendent, TrueNorth Educational Cooperative #804, IL (2016-present).
Leading all efforts related to the 18-member district educational cooperative, a \$42M budget, 400 employees, across 62 North Shore/Chicago Suburb Schools, and 36,038 students of which 15% (5,402) have Individualized Education Plans (IEPs). TrueNorth is governed by a 21-member regional Leadership Council/school board, has an established 18-member parent advisory board (Association of Parents and Staff), and a Foundation. Outcomes:

- Led multiple approved regional strategic plans.
- Increased student achievement through improving access to Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) seven consecutive years.
- Developed a workforce development initiative in collaboration with the local Highland Park Chamber of Commerce, and a Highland Park Leadership Team.
- Improved communications through a new website, related social media tools, and a key performance indicator dashboard; a 2-year rebranding cooperative name change process and developed aligned marketing videos and materials.
- Built a comprehensive policy manual and launched board management and enterprise software.
- Consistently raised employee satisfaction of climate/culture.
- Developed a new equitable and flexible financial model; an 11-year master facility plan; and effectively reduced the number of segregated facilities and self-contained classrooms.
- Successfully negotiated multiple employment agreements across all union groups.
- Effectively managed COVID procedures across 18-member school districts and 2 local counties and health departments, and a July 4th active shooting parade tragedy.

Assistant Superintendent of Learning (Student Services; Curriculum and Instruction),
Community Consolidated School District 181, IL (2012-2016).

Oversaw student service and curriculum/instruction responsibilities for a district of 3,500 students, 9 schools, Grades EC-8. Outcomes:

- Led an advanced learning task force that resulted in an academic plan to raise student growth across all student groups.
- Increased student achievement in literacy and mathematics, including multilingual learners.

Co-administrator of Teaching and Learning, Director of Student Services
Stoughton Area School District, WI (2004-2012).

Co-led teaching and learning responsibilities for a district of 3,200 students, 5 schools, Grades EC-12. Outcomes:

- Increased achievement across all grades and student groups.
- Increased the graduation rate, decreased the special education incidence rate, and lowered the overall dropout rate.
- Developed a nationally recognized inclusive service delivery model for diverse learners.

State Level

The School Superintendents Association (AASA), Member

Illinois Association of School Administrators, Member

Lake County Superintendents Association, Member

Wisconsin Assoc. for Supervision and Curriculum Development, Former Board Member

Wisconsin State Superintendent's Education Data Advisory Committee, Former Member

National Level

Educational Research Development Institute (ERDI), Member

TASH, Former Board Member (2014-2020).

Assoc. for Supervision and Curriculum Development Leadership Council (2011-2014).

Assoc. for Supervision and Curriculum Development Emerging Leader (Class of 2009).

International Level

Volunteer Executive, Fairhaven School, Alexandria, Egypt, (Spring/Summer 1998).

HIGHER EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

Associate Lecturer and Co-Creator, National Integrated Comprehensive Systems (ICS) for Equity Institute, (Summer 2012, Summer 2013, Summer 2014).

Associate Lecturer, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis, University of Wisconsin – Madison, (Summer 2011; Spring 2011; Summer 2010; Spring 2009).

Associate Lecturer, Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education, University of Wisconsin – Madison, (Spring 2007, Fall 2006, Spring 2003).

Associate Lecturer, Department of Special Education, Edgewood College, WI. (Spring 2005; Spring 2004; Summer 2004).

K-12 TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Special Education Teacher, Madison East High School, WI. (1995-1999).

PAPERS/PUBLICATIONS

Schneider, K., Morgan Ryan, M., & Ninni, K. (2023). Assessment of Inclusive Practices. Featured article in AASA School Administrator Journal, August 2023.

Schneider, K. & Sands, S. (2022). Challenging the Established Structure for ALL Kids. Inclusive Education Podcast, Published Episode 198, January 11, 2022.

Schneider, K. (2021). A Heartfelt Tribute to Dr. Lou Brown: A Well-Intentioned Manipulator. Research and Practice for Persons with Severe Disabilities, v. 46(4), p. 298-300.

Schneider, K., et. al. (2021). An Interview on District and School Transformation: Practical Approaches for Facilitating Sustainable Systemic Change. Inclusive Practices.

Schneider, K. & Sands, S. (2020). Board Leadership on Inclusive Practices, Equity, and Access for All. Featured article in AASA School Administrator Journal. January 2020.

Scanlan, M., Frattura, E., Schneider, K., & Capper, C. (2011). Bilingual students within Integrated Comprehensive Services. Book chapter in Understanding Service-Learning and Community Engagement: Crossing Boundaries Through Research. Information Age Publishing.

Kluth, P. (2011). You're Going to Love This Kid. Stoughton Area School District. Featured in a professional development video for teaching students with autism in the inclusive classroom. Brooks Publishing.

National Center for Educational Outcomes: Moving Your Numbers (2008). Featured National District Exemplar for Improving the Achievement of Students with Disabilities.

Brown, L., Freagon, S., Schneider, K. and Barron Jeffrey, A. (2002). The School to postschool transition plan checklist of the Illinois Department for Children and Family Services. Unpublished Manuscript.

Brown, L., Causton-Theoharis, J. and Schneider, K. (2000). Evaluation of selected inservice training – technical assistance activities in the State of Connecticut. Presented to Federal Judge Robert Chatigny, Hartford, Connecticut.

RECENT STATE AND NATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Quirk, C., Schneider, K., Simeck, M., & Tess, K. (2024). Partnership for Change: Transforming Schools for Inclusion and Eliminating Segregation. Invited presenter at The School Superintendents Association (AASA) Conference, San Diego, CA.

Schneider, K. (2023). Winston-Salem Forsyth County North Carolina Public Schools: Systems Change through Inclusive Practices and the Role of Boards of Education. A Board Workshop, Discussion, and Site Visit.

Schneider, K. & Morgan Ryan, M. (2023). National School Public Relations Seminar: Finding Our Way to a New Identity and Brand for an Educational Cooperative. St. Louis, MO.

Schneider, K. (2018-present). Lake County Regional Office of Education Administrative Academy: History of Diverse Learners in Schools and Strategies for Improving Achievement Outcomes for ALL Learners.

Schneider, K. & Staff (2018, 2019, 2020, 2022). An Inclusive Life Starts with an Inclusive Education: Views from School Administrators. Presented at the Annual TASH Conferences – Portland, Phoenix, Virtual.

HONORS, AWARDS, DISTINCTIONS

National Educational Research and Development Institute Member (2021-present)

National Elected TASH Board Member (2014-2020)

National Center for Educational Outcomes - “Moving Your Numbers” (2012)

National TASH June Downing Breakthroughs in Inclusive Education Award (2012)

National ASCD Elected Leadership Council Member (2011)

National ASCD Elected Emerging Leader (2009)