



Lynette Breedlove, Ph.D., joined Quest Academy in Palatine, Illinois, in July 2026. Quest Academy is an independent school for gifted students from preschool through eighth grade, dedicated to meeting the unique academic, social and emotional needs of advanced learners. At Quest, she leads a community committed to whole-child development, differentiated instruction, and a deep understanding of exceptional students.

Prior to joining Quest Academy, Dr. Breedlove served for 12 years as Director of The Gatton Academy of Mathematics and Science on the campus of Western Kentucky University, a statewide public residential STEM program for gifted and high-ability students. She brings a diverse range of educational experiences, including roles in crime prevention programming as a juvenile probation officer, special education teacher, classroom teacher, gifted and talented facilitator, and central office coordinator and director.

In her district leadership role, Dr. Breedlove led the establishment of a school for highly gifted students, thoughtfully designed to meet the specialized needs of this exceptional population. This work deepened her commitment to special schools and to understanding the wide-ranging needs of exceptional learners.

Dr. Breedlove has been an active leader in local, state, and national advocacy organizations supporting gifted education. She has served as Board President of the Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented, The Association for the Gifted (a division of the Council for Exceptional Children), and currently, the Kentucky Association for Gifted Education. She has also held multiple leadership roles within the National Association for Gifted Children. A systems thinker, Dr. Breedlove has supported many of these organizations in developing strategic plans, policies, and procedures that strengthen their impact and member engagement.

Dr. Breedlove emphasizes parent education, collaboration, and support. She leads professional learning for educators and teaches graduate-level courses in gifted education and talent development, with a focus on the social and emotional needs of gifted learners as well as effective differentiation strategies. Her work helps both educators and families better understand and support children with exceptionalities.

Dr. Breedlove earned her bachelor's degree in Psychology at Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee, her master's degree in Gifted and Talented Education from the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas, and her doctorate in Educational Psychology, with an emphasis on Intelligence, Creativity, and Giftedness, from Texas A&M University.