



LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

for principals



Seminar

Instructors

Each seminar spotlights a new Colorado Principal Quality Standard, offering site administrators the opportunity to gain critical information to build their own mastery and understanding of the leadership skills principals need to know and be able to do in accordance with the new educator effectiveness evaluation rubric for principals. Administrators can register for one, several, or all five standards seminars.

Below are the biographies of the instructors for each seminar.

Colorado Principal Quality Standard I: Strategic Leadership

Course Instructors: Mary Rubadeau,
Gayle Westerberg

Mary Rubadeau

Mary Rubadeau is a Senior Consultant for Focused Leadership Solutions and a Professional Development Associate for the Leadership and Learning Center. She has almost 30 years in public education, including a 12 year tenure as superintendent of the Telluride School District, from which she retired in 2011. Mary was named Colorado Superintendent of the Year in 2008, and she currently consults with districts on school reform strategies, and works with the Literacy Design Collaborative as part of the Colorado Legacy Integration Project. She has expertise in leadership development, accountability, strategic planning, special education, multicultural education, and instructional improvement.

Gayle Westerberg

Gayle Westerberg has over 37 years of experience as both a school administrator and a teacher. She recently retired as principal of Dillon Valley Elementary School in Summit School District after 22 years as a school administrator and 15 years as a teacher serving high school, middle school, and elementary students. She currently works for Colorado Mesa University as a student intern supervisor and with the Colorado Legacy Foundation and the Literacy Design Collaborative as a consultant. Gayle is a former National Distinguished Principal and CASE Past President.

Colorado Principal Quality Standard II: Instructional Leadership

Course Instructors: Brent Curtice,
Diana Sirko

Brent Curtice

Brent Curtice has served in public education for over 30 years, spending the first 13 years as a classroom teacher and coach, and 18 years as an administrator including serving as assistant superintendent, principal of both middle and high schools, and athletic director. Brent earned a Master of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from the University of Northern Colorado. In 2004, Brent was named the Colorado High School Principal of the Year for his outstanding leadership. He currently participates on a national curriculum team (PARCC) that is charged with building rubrics and assessments for the Common Core Standards.

Diana Sirko, Ph.D

Diana Sirko has been an educator for 38 years. She has served as a teacher, principal, assistant superintendent, and superintendent in urban, suburban, and rural school districts. She is currently the Superintendent for the Roaring Fork School District and immediately prior to that role, was the Deputy Commissioner for the Colorado Department of Education. Diana holds a BA from the University of Northern Colorado, an MA from the University of Colorado in Colorado Springs, and a PhD in Educational Leadership and Innovation from the University of Colorado at Denver.

Colorado Principal Quality Standard III: Culture and Equity Leadership

Course Instructors: Bill de la Cruz,
Paul Freeman

Bill de la Cruz

Bill de la Cruz is the Director of the Office of Equity and Instruction at Denver Public Schools. With a broad range of experience in the Colorado public sector, including over a decade in public education, Bill brings expertise on issues such as inclusion and equity training, conflict resolution and mediation, leadership development, and dropout prevention. As the Director of the Office of Equity and Instruction, Bill leads the way in transforming the culture of DPS, actively pursuing a positive, inclusive environment where all students are celebrated, achieve, and succeed.

Paul Freeman

Paul Freeman is principal of Glenwood Springs High School and teaches principal preparation classes at Colorado Mesa University. Under Paul's leadership, Glenwood Springs High School has twice won the Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award for outstanding student growth. He began his teaching career in London after receiving an MA in Curriculum Studies from the University of London, and he became a school administrator in 1986. Paul moved to Kuala Lumpur in 1997, where he worked on the Malaysian government's Smart School program. He has lived and worked in the United States since 2001.



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Instructors (Continued)

Colorado Principal Quality Standard IV: Human Resource Leadership

Course Instructors: Brian Childress,
Becky McClure

Brian Childress, Ph.D

Brian Childress is the Director of Human Resources for Eagle County Schools. Brian is leading the educator effectiveness changes in Eagle County Schools and currently evaluates principals as part of his human resource duties. Previous to his time in Eagle County Schools, Brian served as elementary principal and middle school assistant principal in the St. Vrain Valley School District, and has middle and high school teaching experience. Brian holds a Doctor of Educational Leadership from the University of Northern Colorado, an MA in Curriculum and Instruction from University of Colorado-Denver, and a BA in International Relations from the University of California at Davis.

Becky McClure

Becky McClure has over 34 years of public education experience serving as executive director of student services and student achievement services, as well as assistant superintendent of human resources in several Colorado school districts. She is currently a lecturer with the University of Denver Educational Leadership and Policy Studies in the Executive Leadership for Successful Schools Principal Preparation program. Her areas of training and expertise include employee and union relations, educator effectiveness and evaluation, and leadership coaching. In 2011, Becky received the Sandra Shreve Award for Excellence in Human Resources from CASE.

Colorado Principal Quality Standards V & VI: Management and External Development Leadership

Course Instructors: Ellen Miller-Brown,
Sammye Wheeler-Clouse

Ellen Miller-Brown

Ellen Miller-Brown has had varied educational experiences in the United States. She has been a teacher, an assistant principal, a principal, a Director of Middle Schools and of Professional Development and a Chief Academic Officer. As the current Chief Academic Officer for Boulder Valley School District, she is responsible for overseeing the accomplishment of the district's goals; the development and implementation of curriculum, support for students with diverse needs; and planning and assessment. She has taught at the high school and elementary level, but has spent most of her career in administration at the middle school level.

Sammye Wheeler-Clouse

Sammye Wheeler-Clouse is an expert in school leadership, school improvement, classroom instruction, curriculum and assessment. She has 33 years experience in education, working directly with school and district leadership on improving student achievement through research-based test leadership practices. Sammye has coached principals in Colorado and throughout the United States on implementing systemic initiatives to impact school improvement. She specializes in supporting principals and district leaders to manage the complexity of change in order to improve student learning and teacher effectiveness.