

MEET OUR FACULTY



Dr. Sarah Ahern is the Superintendent of Barnstable Public Schools, a position she has held since July 2022. Prior to this role, she served as Superintendent of Franklin Public Schools and as Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology Integration in Holliston. Earlier in her career, Dr. Ahern held various educational roles, including high school science teacher, department head, and assistant principal.

She earned her doctorate in Educational Administration from Boston College, following a Bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Virginia and a Master's degree in Biomedical Sciences from the University of Massachusetts.

Dr. Ahern's professional interests include instructional leadership, systems and processes for organizational improvement, and leadership development.



Susan Ambrozavitch is an educational leader with a valuable holistic perspective gained from 25+ years in educational administration (Assistant Superintendent, High School Principal, Elementary School Principal, Assistant Principal, Human Resources Director, Grant Writer), combined with early background as a reading teacher, Title I Director, multi-age grade 2/3 teacher, grade 2 and 4 classroom teacher.

Upon her retirement from the Danvers Public Schools, Sue pivoted to a second career in higher education, becoming an adjunct professor in the Salem State University CAGs program, and as a supervisor of graduate and undergraduate student teachers at Endicott College.

Susan has also worked with Pearson as a scorer for the PALs tasks required for DESE Administrative Licensure and as a field supervisor for candidates in the MSAA LLP administrative licensure program.

In retirement, Sue enjoys spending time at the family camp on Frye Island on Sebago Lake in Maine, spoiling her two grandchildren, checking off bucket list travel destinations, photography, reading and obsessing about the current state of education!



Jason Defalco is in his seventh year serving as the Superintendent of Blackstone-Millville Regional School District (BMRSD). Effective July 1st, he will be taking the position of Superintendent for the Marlborough Public Schools. Prior to arriving in Blackstone-Millville, Jason spent almost 20 years in urban education dedicating his work to school and district reform. Jason started in education as an elementary school teacher in Worcester after graduating from Suffolk University. While teaching in Worcester he received his masters degree in school administration from Worcester State University and transitioned to the principalship, serving in that role for nearly a decade. In early 2014, Jason was appointed Chief Academic Officer/Deputy Superintendent of the New Bedford Public Schools taking on whole district reform. After successfully assisting in the district's release from DESE monitoring, he moved to Blackstone-Millville in 2018. Jason's passion is leadership development, and building strong systems and structures at all levels of the school district ecosystem. In 2016 Jason completed his doctorate at Johnson and Wales University focusing his dissertation on developing principals as strong instructional leaders fighting for equity and inclusivity. Jason's most favorite role is being a dad and a husband.



Abby Hanscom

has worked in the field of special education for over thirty years. Currently the Director of Student Services for the Hopkinton Public Schools, she has also held positions as a learning center teacher, curriculum specialist, special education administrator at the middle school level, and Assistant Director of Student Services at the District level. From 2011 – 2023, she worked as the Director of Student Services in the Westwood Public Schools. She holds a CAGS in Educational Administration, an MSW (clinical focus) and M.Ed. in Special Education, and a BA in Elementary Education.

Abby is certified in Massachusetts as a Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent, Special Education Administrator, Middle School Principal, Special Educator (Moderate K-8) and Elementary Education Teacher (K-6). Her educational interests include co-teaching, training of aspiring administrators, inclusive practices, collaboration and consultation, and effective communication. Abby is an adjunct faculty member at multiple colleges and programs teaching in the Special Education program at the graduate level. She also [co-hosts a podcast on special education](#) that aims to make special education issues engaging and entertaining.



Sarah Houle

started her career as a high school social studies teacher in 2009, after having earned a Bachelor's Degree in History from Boston University and a Master's degree in History Education from UMass Boston. After many people "tapped her on the shoulder" and encouraged her to go into leadership, Sarah enrolled in the Licensure and Leadership Program through the MA School Administrators Association, during which she secured both her Principal license and a Master's in Educational Leadership from Endicott College in 2018.

She became the Assistant Principal at Southbridge Middle School the following year, where she subsequently became the Associate Principal and now serves as Principal. She, in collaboration with the leadership team and staff of Southbridge Middle School, has developed systems to ensure school safety, improve teacher professional development, and increase academic outcomes for students.



Dr. Evelyn D. Lee

is a highly accomplished educator and administrator hails from the historic city of Montgomery, Alabama. She holds advanced degrees from prestigious institutions across Alabama and Massachusetts, specializing in K-12 Education, Teacher Leadership, Urban School Leadership, and Strategic Leadership.

With a distinguished career spanning multiple leadership roles, Ms. Lee has served as a Teacher, Principal, Executive Coach, Principal Mentor, Assistant Headmaster for Middle School, Director of Visual & Performing Arts, and Head of School. Her expertise extends globally, having facilitated professional development workshops for educators and administrators in Beijing and Chongqing China; Pretoria and Johannesburg, South Africa; public/private charter schools, universities and school-related conventions throughout the United States.



Paul Peri

has professional experience including almost 30 years of teaching, learning and leadership experience in the public school setting at all levels. Paul earned his undergraduate degree at Muhlenberg College, majoring in Psychology and Elementary Education. His career began in the sixth grade classroom and after 17 years as a teacher, assistant principal, and then principal in the middle school level, Paul made the move to the high school setting 10 years ago. For four years, Paul has proudly served as the principal of the #1 ranked Weston High School, and this past year has served as the Assistant Superintendent of Schools in Medway, MA.



Dr. Sujan "Suzie" Talukdar

is the principal of Underwood School in Newton Public Schools, bringing over 28 years of experience in K-16 education. She is deeply committed to creating a joyful and inclusive school community where every student feels a genuine sense of belonging and is encouraged to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. Her leadership focuses on building meaningful relationships to dismantle systemic barriers rooted in racism, replacing them with equitable practices that uplift and empower students, staff, and families alike. Her unwavering passion for anti-racism, inclusion and belonging, and educational equity has been a consistent theme throughout her career. She prioritizes high-quality, culturally responsive instructional practices to ensure that students reach rigorous academic standards.



Beth Wittcoff

was a middle school Principal for twenty years and has been an active educator in the field for over 40 years. Currently, Beth serves as the LLP Coordinator at MSAA. Prior to this new role Beth was an Assistant Executive Director at MSAA. Beth believes deeply in mentoring and helping others realize their educational and career goals.