

# Mead Ploszay

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **WHITFIELD SCHOOL, CREVE COEUR, MO**

**2019 – present**

#### ***Director of Teaching and Learning***

*Lead* academic leadership team in discussion and implementation of process improvement as it pertains to the student and faculty experience. Manage department chairs and support curriculum review, design and alignment. Develop and deliver professional learning opportunities for faculty; support the process of application for external professional development. Collaborate on the implementation of faculty evaluation using Danielson framework.

*Collect, analyze and synthesize* data regarding academic growth of all students in grades 6-12. Administrator of Fastbridge assessment and intervention programming.

*Manage* student intervention and accommodations which includes identifying academic challenges, providing Tier 1 & 2 support, making referrals to internal and external supports.

*Coach* students in 1-on-1 and small group environment; focus on retention, generalization and transfer strategies as well as executive functioning skills.

*Collaborate* with technology to investigate and instruct use of technology tools that support and enhance both the student and faculty experience (ie: One Note, Google docs, Learning Ally, Canva, Easy Bib).

*Partner* with the admission team to determine applicant fit and need for academic support and/or accommodations. Develop and run summer programs to support incoming students.

### **MARY INSTITUTE AND ST. LOUIS COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL, LADUE, MO**

**2009 – 2019**

#### ***Middle School Learning Specialist***

Responsible for developing and supporting curricular programs and monitoring the academic growth of students in grades 5-8 • Partnered with department chairs and teaching faculty to extend and refine project based learning and formative assessment as well as redesign student feedback • Co-Leader of new faculty program; three-year transition program based on Marzano and Danielson frameworks • Designed and delivered small and large group lessons focused on understanding executive functioning, processing and retention strategies • Developed and implemented individualized student intervention plans • Compiled student data for administrative team and board committee presentations • Testing administrator for ERB/CTP • Experience with SPIRE, Megawords, Visualizing-Verbalizing, Step Up to Writing, 6+1 Writing Traits, Math-In-Focus and Responsive Classroom.

#### ***Middle School Counselor***

**2000 – 2005**

Member of the Crisis Management Team and Student Support Team • Assessed behavioral and emotional needs of students • Implemented solution based and cognitive behavioral based counseling strategies with students • Developed and assisted with implementation of the advisory program • Designed and presented social skills lessons in the classroom setting • Helped to support developmentally appropriate classroom behavior plans • Facilitated parent forums and parent book groups.

### **LEARNING CONSULTANTS, BRENTWOOD, MO**

**2006 – 2009**

#### ***School Psychologist/Counselor – Independent Practitioner***

Independent consultant to students attending Independent Schools and suburban public schools • Conducted educational evaluations, designed intervention plans, collaborated with

parents and school personnel • Planned and implemented academic coaching sessions and led social skills groups for ages 6-14 • Managed client scheduling and billing.

## **HARFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS, HARFORD COUNTY, MD**

**1997 – 2000**

### ***School Psychologist – Havre de Grace Elementary School***

Managed Classroom Support Program that consisted of four teachers/staff and ~20 students • Served on multidisciplinary student support teams • Gathered cognitive, adaptive and/or behavioral functioning student data to drive individualized education plans • Provided individual and group counseling • Co-leader of staff development programming and the after school academic support program.

## **EDUCATION**

BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY, LEWISBURG, PA

**Master of Science in Education** 1995 – 1997 Member of Kappa Delta Pi, Honor Society in Education

**Bachelor of Arts in Psychology** 1991 – 1995

## **CERTIFICATIONS / LICENSES**

Licensed Professional Counselor in Missouri

Certified School Psychologist in Missouri, Pennsylvania, and Maryland, JK-12

Certified School Counselor in Missouri, Pennsylvania, and Maryland, JK-12

## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITION**

THE SESQUICENTENNIAL AWARD (June 2016)

“Award presented to a member of the faculty who, in addition to being exemplary teachers and mentors, have had a significant influence on the development of a collegial atmosphere and a healthy overall school community at MICDS.” Voted on by colleagues.

THE DONALD H. WEBB CHAIR OF DISTINGUISHED TEACHING (2013 – 2016)

Included three-year stipend and professional development budget

THE DOROTHY WRAY ROBERTS MERIT AWARD (May 2012)

Award established to support excellence in teaching

## **LEADERSHIP IN THE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL COMMUNITY**

**MICDS:** Teaching Boys Committee Aug 2018 • Head of School Search Advisory Committee Aug & Sep 2018 • Member of Educational Life Committee 2017 - 2018 • Member of Assessment Committee 2016 – 2017 • Member of Strategic Planning Committee - Great Teaching and Learning 2014 – 2015 • Member of the Scheduling Committee 2013 – 2014 • ISACS Committee Chair for Learning Support 2012 – 2013 • Member of Math Curriculum Research and Selection 2011 – 2012

**ISACS VISITING TEAMS:** *Marburn Academy*- responsible for Admissions, Professional Development and Health Care and Records reports (February 2018)

*Amos and Celia Heilicher Minneapolis Jewish Day School*- responsible for Student Services/Resources and Auxiliary Programming reports (May 2016)

## **LEADERSHIP IN THE COMMUNITY**

CO-CHAIR OF “**JUST TURF IT**” - parent led campaign to resurface fields in the Kirkwood School District, Aug 2021-present

Member of Superintendent Ad Hoc Parent Group - Pandemic Learning - Kirkwood School District, Aug 2020-Feb 2021

CO-CHAIR OF PUBLICITY COMMITTEE FOR SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES FAIR - Marketed fair through social media and local advertising, Oct 2016 - Feb 2017

VICE PRESIDENT OF THE LAB SCHOOL BOARD - Reviewed and approved school budget and enrollment plan • Determined annual teacher salary increase to align with projected enrollment • Worked on marketing campaign to increase extended day enrollment • Developed Director evaluation and delivered annual board feedback, Aug 2013 - June 2017

## **FORMAL PRESENTATIONS/PUBLICATIONS**

"Middle Schoolers Must Play." Association for Middle Level Education, Volume 7, No. 3, August 2019, p. 28-30.

["All Work and No Play."](#) The Neurodiversity podcast, *Feb 2019*

**The Summit for Transformative Learning, MICDS, St. Louis, MO**

"Effective Instructional Strategies for Teaching Male Learners." *June 2017*

"The Confluence of Mind, Brain, and Education Science." *June 2016*

"Brain Based Teaching Strategies that Enhance Long-Term Retention." *June 2015*

"Teacher-Student Relationship- How it affects achievement and motivation." *June 2015*

**Rossman School, St. Louis, MO**

"Executive Function: developmental guidelines for growth and interventions." *April 2017*

**MICDS Parent Board Committee Parent Presentation**

"Building Stress Resilient Brains." *February 2016*

**Independent Schools of St. Louis, St. Louis, MO**

"Brain Based Teaching Strategies that Enhance Long-Term Retention." *November 2015*

**Missouri Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association Conference, Lake of the Ozarks, MO** "Leading the Leaders- Body, Mind and Spirit: Understanding how to manage mindsets and increase performance." *April 2015*