



**ANGEL BURKE**

Angel is originally from Utah and transferred to PSU for her B.A. in Secondary English Education and M.Ed in Curriculum and Instruction. She taught high school English at Kearsarge Regional High School and Bow High School before becoming the Academic Coordinator for Teaching and Learning, Grades 6-12 in the Laconia School District. In 2016 she completed her C.A.G.S. in Educational Leadership with a Principal Certification. As a member of the EDies (Excellence in Education) Executive Board, she has helped to recognize quality teaching and learning across the state. She has facilitated professional development on blended learning, performance assessments, UbD unit development, as well as competency-based education. Angel is especially passionate about engaging learners in authentic, active, project-based learning. When not in her garden; she is also a voracious reader of fiction, memoir, and biography.



**JESSICA CARLETON MSW, LICSW**

Jessica is a graduate of Simmons School of Social Work in Boston, MA where she earned her Master's in Social Work. She earned her CAGS in Educational leadership from the University of New England Biddeford, ME.

She is certified in Relational and Contextual Trauma in Children and Families. Her experience is in Child Welfare as a social worker, school social work and Clinical Supervision of Graduate Interns. She lives in New Hampshire with her husband, two sons and two crazy dogs. She enjoys reading and spending time with her family.



### **JACKIE COE**

Jackie is a New Hampshire native, who went to Colby-Sawyer for her B.A. in American Studies and Dartmouth for her M.A.L.S, with a concentration in writing. She taught high school Social Studies and English before becoming Academic Dean at Bow High School. As a member of the first doctoral cohort at NEC, Jackie completed her dissertation on the impact of blended learning on student engagement. She has facilitated professional development on blended learning, performance assessments, rigor and depth of knowledge, creativity and mentoring. Jackie is especially interested in opportunities to rethink the structures of school. Currently, Jackie serves as Assistant Superintendent at SAU 24 (serving Henniker, Stoddard & Weare).



## **GINA DIGREGORIO AUBIN**

My name is Gina M. DiGregorio Aubin, and I am in my 16th year as a Humanities Teacher at Bow High School. Prior to teaching at Bow, I taught at Londonderry High School, and before becoming a teacher I was a journalist. I graduated from the University of New Hampshire with a degree in English/Journalism and earned my teaching certification from Franklin Pierce College. I earned my Master's Degree in Education with a concentration in School Culture and Climate from New England College.

I enjoy team teaching Freshman Humanities with a Social Studies teacher; I am also fond of teaching seniors in our Senior Seminar course. As an educator, I thoroughly enjoy thinking of and researching new ways to connect with and reach students. I especially like collaborating with others and gaining their perspectives.

When I am not in the classroom, I enjoy spending time with my supportive husband of 25 years, our two teenage sons, my parents, siblings and friends. As a family, we enjoy hiking and camping; I am an avid reader, and I enjoy running with friends and our dog, Darcy.



## **MARY KUECHENMEISTER**

Mary Kuechenmeister is the founder of the New Hampshire nonprofit, Story Preservation Initiative. She currently serves as the organization's executive director. Mary was instrumental in the development of the organization's flagship project, the Story Preservation Initiative Learning Lab. The Learning Lab was developed for 4-12 teachers and combines SPI primary source audio with project-based lesson plans for rich, multi-disciplinary learning. She brings a more than 30-year background in writing, editing, and broadcast production to her position. She started her career in the Broadcast/Communications Department at Save the Children, Westport, Connecticut. Mary is a graduate of the University of Connecticut.



**KRYSTAL MITKONIS**

Krystal Mitkonis is a Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor who has spent over ten years in community mental health, and has recently made the move to school-based work. She has her Bachelor's Degree in Human Development, with a Minor in Social Work from Rivier University, and her Master's Degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Southern New Hampshire University. Krystal has spent many years being intensively trained in Dialectical Behavior Therapy, which is where her understanding and interest for Mindfulness and improved communication skills stems from. During her free time, Krystal enjoys being with her husband and twin boys, as well as doing what she can for self-care, whether it's going for a run or enjoying time with her friends.



**DEBRA NITSCHKE-SHAW**

I have been a faculty member at NEC for well over 25 years. During that time, I have been the Director of Teacher Education, Director of the Graduate Education Program, and Interim Associate Dean of Education, while teaching a wide array of courses from foundation of education classes to chairing dissertation committees. My particular passion is supervising students in the field and those engaged in meaningful research that can transform their teaching and the world of education. I live on Pierce Lake in Hillsborough and have two grown children, both of whom are graduates of NEC. My husband is also a graduate of NEC. I have 4 grandchildren

who I love spending time with whenever I can. I am very family oriented and understand the importance of balancing family with work.



## MARY SHANK

I have been teaching for 16 years focusing on Freshmen in Honors English, Writing Workshop and Honors Creative Writing, a dual enrollment class offered through Southern New Hampshire University. I also teach in the [LHS Adult Education](#) program, a great resource for students looking for a different way to earn a traditional high school diploma. I have also had opportunities to teach at [SNHU](#) both on campus and in their [COCE program](#). I earned my B.A. and M.A.T. at [UNH](#) in English Teaching. I recently completed my M.Ed. in Educational Administration at [Rivier University](#). With this degree and principal certification, I hope to eventually work closely with curriculum alignment across an entire school district. I am married and have two little munchkins: Grayson (5) and Ainsley (2). They are both super crazy but incredibly lovable. My husband is the head baseball coach at NEC. We love being outside, especially at the beach! I enjoy exploring with my kids, landscaping, skiing, and pursuing my hobby of photography. Learning and revamping things to make them the best they can be is a passion. My care and concern for my students is innate and something I treasure about myself. I am excited about the opportunity to continue to develop this trait as I explore new and interesting ways to work with learners that are at different points in their life, at various stages in their education, and are looking to achieve unique, personal goals.



**BEN WHITE**

Ben White is the Principal at Richmond Elementary School in Richmond, Vermont. Richmond Elementary School is a preK-4th grade school with approximately 368 scholars and 70 staff. He has also worked as an Assistant Principal at the middle-level, Program Director for at-risk children through a non-profit, and served as an educator in grades preK-8th. He has a B.S. and an M.S.Ed from Saint Joseph's College of Maine and is set to complete his Ed.D. through New England College.



**LINDSAY NYE**

Lindsay Nye has been teaching in public education for 15 years. She has experience teaching Special Education, Preschool, Kindergarten, and First Grade. She has a BA in Business Economics from Saint Anselm College. She received her teaching certification from New England College in both Special Education K-12 and General Education K-8. She also received her Master's in Education with concentrations in Meeting the Needs of All Learners and Curriculum and Instruction. She has a CAGS in Educational Leadership and principal certification from New England College. She has been teaching first grade and using the workshop model for 12 years. She has used many reading programs such as Rigby, Houghton Mifflin, and most recently piloted and implemented the Lucy Calkins Units of Study in reading and writing.



## **SHARON LOCKE**

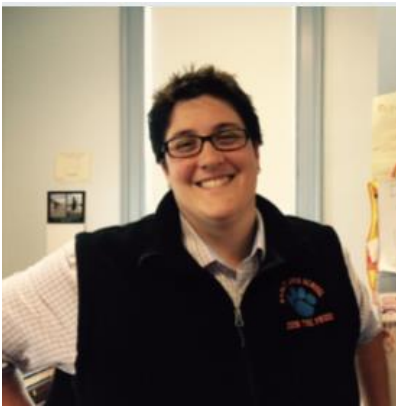
Sharon Locke is the Superintendent of Schools in Naugatuck, CT. She credits coherent strategic planning and focused instructional leadership for remarkable gains in math achievement during her first term in Naugatuck where student proficiency levels rose from 29% to 41%. The Connecticut Coalition for Achievement Now (ConnCan), recognized Naugatuck as a Standout District in its 2018 Field Guide to Education in Connecticut for having the highest average percentage of growth target achieved in 2017 for low-income students in math when compared with similar districts. Sharon is also highly regarded for her student-based approach to budgeting earning the district a Connecticut Association of School Boards (CABE) award for its 2015-16 budget. Sharon also spent 8 years as an educational leader in New Britain, CT including two years as the Chief Academic Officer where she developed a common curricula through a professional learning team model, implemented an English language development program that vastly improved results for EL students, and helped reorganize the district to leverage the strength of neighborhood communities.

Prior to administration, Sharon was a guidance counselor in Farmington, West Hartford, and Old Saybrook, CT, where she was elected as Teacher of the Year. Sharon currently serves as Connecticut's representative on the New England Association of School Superintendents (NEASS) as well as vice-chair of the Southeastern CT Area Association (SCASA). She lives with her husband Jeff, and her son, Jahi (when he isn't studying abroad) in Southbury, CT and Washington, NH. She is currently pursuing her Doctoral degree at New England College in Henniker, NH with a focus on critical leadership.

## **BRENT TURNER**

Brent Turner joined Northwestern in 2014 and serves as the Executive Director of Campus Life where he supervises three departments: Fraternity & Sorority Life, Leadership Development & Community

Engagement, and Student Organizations & Activities. Brent is currently pursuing his Doctorate in Education at New England College in Higher Education Administration. He earned a Master of Arts in Educational Policy and Leadership from The Ohio State University and a Bachelor of Arts in Government from The College of William & Mary. His professional career has primarily been in positions of directing offices of student involvement and activities including DePaul University, Rollins College, Kenyon College, Wisconsin in Scotland, and the University of Wisconsin – River Falls. Brent is passionate about leadership education and enjoys helping students discover their values, passions, and strengths. He believes in authenticity, justice, and respect while challenging systems and status quo toward equity. He has been a consultant, trainer, presenter, and facilitator for several associations and institutions and serves as a national Co-Lead for the LeaderShape® Institute.



## ERIN MAHONEY

Erin is an elementary school administrator in a district where roughly 50% of elementary students are living in poverty. She began working as a para-educator, then as a special education teacher at the middle school level. In addition, she taught night classes to at-risk high school students and teacher preparation courses through Granite State College. Erin is now an administrator at Nancy Loud Elementary School where she has served for the past 6 years. Regardless of the level, her passion is to help staff, families, and students in understanding the impact of trauma on ourselves and others; focusing specifically on what we can do as a community to support each other in our schools and beyond.





## **KIM HELLERICH**

Kimberly is currently enrolled in the New England College Ed.D. program. She earned her Bachelor of Science in English and Master of Arts degrees in Education at the University of Connecticut. She received her Sixth Year degree in Educational Leadership from Southern Connecticut State University. After teaching seventh grade language arts for ten years, she served as a middle school assistant principal for three years and has completed her eighth year as a middle school principal. Her passion for trauma-sensitive approaches is serving as her dissertation focus and will inspire her approaches with students when she returns to teach at the high school level beginning in the fall of 2018. She lives in Connecticut with her daughter, husband, and two cats. She enjoys hiking in national parks and listening to 80s music.



## **MICHAEL BLISS**

Mike Bliss joined the University of Massachusetts, Lowell in 2012 as a Resident Director and has successively taken on different roles within Residence Life. He works on a variety of different projects within the Student Affairs Division including chairing the Sexual Violence Prevention Programming committee, serving as an Investigator and Review Panelist for conduct cases, formerly chairing the Sustainability Committee, and serving on the Assessment Committee. He is currently pursuing his Doctorate in Education at New England College in Higher Education Administration with his dissertation work centered on Student Affairs assessment. He earned a Masters of Arts in Higher Education from Boston College and a Bachelors of Arts in Sociology from New York University. He is passionate about assessment, the bridge between student affairs and academic affairs, and the future of higher education. He enjoys many types of games, seeing movies, and reading in his spare time.



## **JILL BASSETT**

With a Bachelor of Arts in English and Master of Arts in Women's Studies from Southern Connecticut State University, Jill has been working in higher education for over 14 years. As the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs and Retention at FPU, she oversees all student conduct as well as guides Title IX education. She is the Vice President of the New Hampshire Violence Against Women Campus Consortium, member of the Cheshire Country Sexual Assault Responds Team (SART) and developed the FPU SART. She is currently in the Ed.D Higher Education program at New England College and researching *Vicarious Trauma in Higher Education for Those Engaged with Sexual Misconduct (Title IX) Cases*. Jill also serves as the Wellness and Health Knowledge Community Coordinator for NASPA Region 1 Board, is an active advocate for the LGBTQ community as a SafeZones Trainor and a Sexual Assault Crisis Counselor. Jill's awards include the 2016 Program of the Year from NASPA for the PSA *It's On Us* seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eeKbLlIoUV34&t=2s>, the 2017 New Hampshire Mid-Level Professional of the Year Award from NASPA and the 2018 Outstanding

Woman of New Hampshire Award for the Monadnock Region, which was acknowledged from Keene State College, Senator Shaheen and Congresswoman Kuster.