

Dr. Susan Gilson

Professional Summary

Proven educational leader with exceptional skills in communicating, thinking critically, sound decision making, and problem solving to result in positive welcoming environments that bring the community together to vision for, support, and sustain student success

Education

Harvard University Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA Executive Leadership Institutes	2006-2008
University of Connecticut Storrs, Connecticut, USA Doctor of Philosophy, Cognition and Instruction Awarded NEAG School Doctoral Fellowship	1998-2003
Master of Arts, Curriculum and Instruction	1993-1995
University of Calgary Calgary, Alberta, CANADA Certificate of Advanced Study, Fine and Performing Arts	1995-1996
University of Hartford West Hartford, Connecticut, USA Bachelor of Science in Engineering and Bachelor of Music Education Both Degrees: Summa Cum Laude / Regent's Award Recipient- Top GPA Engineering	1987-1992

MA Administrator Certifications- Business Director, Special Education Director, Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent, Principal (Elementary, Middle, High)

CT Teaching Certifications- Professional Licensure in Math, Physics, Music, and Adult Learning

Experience

King Philip Regional School District, Norfolk, Massachusetts	2003-Present
Assistant Superintendent	2018-Present
Assistant Superintendent/ MS Principal	2011-2018
MS Principal (2006-2011); MS Assistant Principal (2003-2006)	

Assistant Superintendent Leadership Contributions

- Support operation of the King Philip Regional School District with a focus on pandemic response and recovery, prioritizing student health and wellness while ensuring rigorous instructional programming
- Coordinate district wide professional development with multiple stakeholders to support aligned curriculum and instruction
- Engage collaboratively with King Philip Association to resolve district concerns as well as negotiate contracts for all Units
- Led district wide data analysis used to monitor results of evidence based program used to support academic, social, and emotional learning

Dr. Susan Gilson

- Collaborate with school/district leadership teams in the budget and process in preparation of the district budget
- Creation and implementation of model frameworks to support curriculum development that promotes anti-racist, inclusive, and equitable best practices
- Coordinate and report on district compliance as required for Civil Rights and Title audits
- Led working group of community stakeholders during Strategic Planning process
- School Committee and tri-town presentation of strategic budgets during years with challenging fiscal climates
- Chaired the district hiring processes for High School Principal, Director of Special Education now Student Services, and Superintendent of Schools
- Led district wide efforts to train, implement, and calibrate educator evaluation
- Developed outcome based reporting for Building Improvement/District Strategic Plan

Secured Annual Title Entitlement Grants and Competitive Grants

Outcomes for various grants received included: Implementation of tuition free five week high school summer school programming for credit recovery; Implementation of NWEA MAPS testing as a standard assessment tool to prepare students for MCAS; Revisions in programming for Teacher Mentoring programs; Increases in innovative technologies used within district courses such as artificial intelligence, robotics, and computer programming; Implementation of tuition free one week middle school summer orientation program for all students from feeder schools; Support for Early College programming; Implementation of MA MyCap to improve guidance department Career and College programming; and Teacher Diversification to focus on high school education pathway, hiring practices, recruitment, and retention related to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Highlights 2023-2024 School Year Contributions

- Awarded HQIM 2nd Year Competitive Grant for Mathematics to support middle level implementation of Illustrative Math Approach using Open Up Resources
- NEASC Commission of Public Schools Decennial Accreditation Team Member- November 3-Day Accreditation Visit to Boston "Pilot" Early College High School which is a small public high school with more autonomy than the traditional schools in terms of governance and fiscal structure.

King Philip Middle School Principal Leadership Contributions

- Built a community culture founded on trust and shared leadership
- Developed and implemented innovative schedule redesign at zero cost
Redesign supported:
 - longitudinal enrollment for HS AP World Language (no 5th year program existed prior to redesign), HS AP Calculus AB/BC (no 5th year program existed prior to redesign); and MS/HS Choral (increased numbers) and Band programs
 - increased direct learning time for all MS students

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- Completed major middle school building renovation/construction project and revised building infrastructure to create more welcoming learning environment
- Sponsored 2013 National Geography Bee Champion through geography club creation, selection of advisor and provision of materials
- Led curriculum development process, increased safety protocols, and crisis response
- Responsible for advancing comprehensive teaching and learning program
- Served as Supervisor of Administrative Practicums with M.S.S.A. / doctoral reviewer for Ph.D./ Ed.D candidates at Northeastern, and University of Connecticut

University of Connecticut, NEAG School of Education

Student Teaching Supervisor, Storrs, CT

2002-2003

Mansfield Public Schools, Storrs, CT

2001-2002

Full year School Middle School Principal Internship, Mansfield, CT

U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

West Hartford Public Schools, West Hartford, CT

1992-2001

17 School District

Teacher-Traditional and Magnet Schools designed to promote racial, ethnic, and economic integration within Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Theme, West Hartford, CT Lead writer for National Blue Ribbon Schools Award for academic excellence 2000-2001 Teacher representative, District Curriculum, Report Card, School Scheduling Committee; Successful grants through West Hartford's Education Foundation program; Supervised undergraduate education students from local universities

Most Recent Professional Presentations

Educator Evaluation - Administrator Leadership Retreat with Follow Up Presentations on Calibration at Fall District Leadership Team meetings; Positive Behavioral Intervention Systems, Application of Concerns Based Adoption Model to Guide Change, Universal Design for Learning, Redesign of STEM Programs to Integrate Artificial Intelligence and Robotics within Secondary Education-University of Central Florida doctoral students, Redesign of STEM Programs through the Integration of Computer Science and Algebra- Springfield Public School System Principals and Teachers, Student Safety, Norfolk County Cable with District Attorney Morrissey, and Student Safety, Tri County Superintendent Roundtable

Other past presentations have included: Effective Teacher Use of Technology. Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International Conference, Atlanta, Georgia; Shaping Effective Learning Environments- Teacher Certification Program for College Graduates, University of Connecticut; "Thinking Outside of the Box"- New England League of Middle Schools Conference in Providence, Rhode Island; Panelist, University of Connecticut, Administrator Preparation Program.

Professional Memberships

Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents

M.A.S.S. Council of Administrators for Administrators of Compensatory Education, C.A.C.E.

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Tri County Superintendent Round Table
Massachusetts Association of School Business Administrators