

Michele M. Rivers Murphy, Ed.D.

As an innovative and mindful educational leader, I am a positive and enthusiastic change agent who leads from experience, integrity and excellence—and, who facilitates and fosters *the best in others* while cultivating compassionate, high quality school communities where students, teachers and support staff grow, learn and lead together.

Strengths & Abilities

Seasoned Educational Leader, Consultant & Presenter Accomplished
Speaker and Writer (Author)

Community Builder
Strategic Big Picture Thinker
Positive Change Agent
Dynamic Problem Solver

Creative Instructional Leader
Effective Communicator & Active Listener
Multi-faceted Innovator
Intelligent Risk Taker

Education

- Doctorate of Educational Leadership, Northeastern University, MA. (2014)
 - *Induction into Sigma Epsilon Rho Honor Society for High Academic Achievement
 - *Doctorate Dissertation: *High Quality Service Learning Project*- the gap between what students are learning and what they need to know to be prepare for school, work and life (through student lens)
- Master's Degree in Educational Leadership, Framingham State College, Framingham, MA
 - *Master's Degree Thesis: *Saving Time, Saving Money, Saving Lives* (Magna Cum Laude)
- Bachelor of Arts, Humanistic Psychology/Human Resources with a Concentration in Mental Health, Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, FL
- Plus 45 additional Educational Credits, St. Petersburg Junior College, St. Petersburg, FL

Educational Certificates

- State of Massachusetts: Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent (K-12)
- Principal/Assistant Principal (PreK-6), (5-9) & (9-12)
- MA and FL, Special Needs (Pre-K-9), Special Needs (5-12), Special Needs (5-9) and
- Social Studies (5-9)

Additional Achievements/Professional Certificates

- Certified in John Saphier's Research for Better Teaching- *Observing and Analyzing Teaching*
- Developed School to Work Program
- Developed Community Service Learning Projects and Interdisciplinary Service Learning Model
- Mindful Leader (M. Bunting)
- Mindful Communications (mindfulschools.com)
- Mindfulness Fundamentals (mindfulschools.org)
- Mindful Essentials for Educators (mindfulnessschools.org)

Professional Experience

2014-present

**Associate Director for Heart Centered Learning, Research Associate & Educational Consultant.
Center for Educational Improvement (CEI)- Vienna, VI**

Responsibilities.

- Developing, envisioning, cultivating, facilitating, implementing Heart Centered Learning (CEI's signature SEL approach) in school communities to build compassionate, heart centered environments *where students and staff thrive and flourish*
- Preparation and delivery of Professional Development and Presenter for National Principal Conferences and Proposal Development for national and statewide 21c Learning and Leadership Grants

Achievements.

- Co-authored A School- Compassionate Culture Analytic Tool for Educators (**S-CCATE. 2017 © CEI**) used as an envisioning guide for school climate and culture as well as data analysis instrument (*Currently being used for CEI/Yale University partnership re: a federal SAMHSA Mental Health Grant, Region I, NE. 3rd consecutive year)
- Assisted with the development of CEI's signature social emotional approach *Heart Centered Learning* (HCL: 5C's Consciousness, Compassion, Confidence, Courage & Community) as a pathway for transforming school cultures into Heart Centered learning Communities (www.edimprovement.org)
- Developed Heart Beaming Activities and Heart Centered Lessons (Heart Beaming Booklet. CEI website)
- Conducted Pilot Studies nationwide, using CEI's S-CCATE instrument and Mindfulness/HCL to teach about the neurobiology and neuroscience, interconnectivity of our brain, emotions, trauma/stress
- Facilitated a year-long Pilot Study at Lee Elementary School, creating compassionate school cultures utilizing Mindfulness and Heart Centered Learning as a response to toxic stress and trauma
- Presented at NAESP and NASSP annual conferences on Heart Centered Education (TN and PA), neurobiology/science of trauma and mindfulness
- (CEI) Received recognition from Pioneers by Children's Well Being, *change maker award* for our combined work in our signature social emotional approach: *Heart Centered Learning*, school culture, and health and well-being
- Completed proposal development and delivered training in several topics Heart Centered Learning (social-emotional), Family Engagement and Community Education, Trauma and Mindfulness/Heart Centered Community Education, Positive School Cultures, STEAM initiatives, Neuroscience, Community Education, *Operation Respect*, Service Learning, Kindergarten Readiness, and 21c Leadership Training and Mentoring
- Authored articles related to School Climate, Leadership and 21c Learning Initiatives, Early Childhood Initiatives, Whole-Child Community Education Approach and Shared Visioning & Responsibility
- Delivered national webinars on a variety of topics related to school culture, mindful leadership, trauma and mental health and self-care and social emotional & academic learning (SE(A)L)

Professional Experience

1999- Present

Independent Consultant & Professional Development Presenter for “KIDS FIRST”

Responsibilities.

- Conducted observations, assessments (comprehensive written reports), guidance, consultation, and professional development and training on a variety of topics (as listed below) as well as home visits, advocacy, and management of high profile SPED cases, working and networking with regular and special education, support staff, school leaders, parents, families, social service agencies and wider community resources

Achievements.

- Authored a “Comprehensive Paraprofessional Manual ” (adopted in multiple districts)
- Coordinated and compiled the State of Massachusetts’ Ten Disability Manuals as a guide for service providers
- Developed a Speech/Language Manual for assessments, interventions, and service strategies (adopted in multiple districts)
- Delivered Professional Development and Workshops for administrators, teachers, and paraprofessionals in MA, CT, RI, and FL. Professional development and workshops targeted multiple grade levels over a wide range of topics such as positive relationship building, school culture, community education, curriculum development and instructional strategies, mindfulness, self-care, social emotional & academic learning (SEL(A)L), inclusion, executive functioning, autism, social emotional disabilities, behavioral management, positive disciplinary approach, and SPED issues and laws
- Completed comprehensive student assessments and teacher training on a variety of issues such as behavioral management, instructional teaching strategies, classroom accommodations, the neuroscience/neurobiology of the brain and the interconnectivity of emotions regarding stress and trauma, mindfulness and heart centered community education model as a response to create compassionate school learning environments
- Managed case load as an innovative administrator of SPED cases in need of higher service delivery and compliance
- Performed extensive examination of high profile, non-compliant SPED cases, consisting of comprehensive observations and interviews, and resulting in an all-inclusive written assessment. Generated a written report, citing specific recommendations necessary to achieve desired outcomes, including guidance on training, strategies, and interventions.
- Conducted outreach and home visits with child, parents and families
- Created a large network of community agencies and personnel to help service child and families

Professional Development for *Solution Tree Publisher, Inc*

2019-Present

- Nationwide delivery of professional development and/Key Note Speaker in areas of Positive School Culture, Social Emotional & Academic Learning SE(A)L; Self- Care, Mindful Leadership; Mindful Practices/SE(A)L, setting the Right Conditions for Optimal Learning (RCOL) . <https://www.solutiontree.com/michele-rivers-murphy.html>