

Patricia Kinsella

Professional Experience

Curriculum Coordinator for ELA K-8, Public Schools of Brookline **2010-present**

Envisioned and led system-wide rejuvenation of literacy teaching and learning, with focus on:

- Achieving educational equity for students
- Affirming the dignity and professionalism of educators
- Creating systemic coherence and durability
- Building capacity of staff at all levels

Established support for literacy initiative among the offices of the Superintendent, Budget, Deputy Superintendent, Student Services, Brookline Educators Union, school-based administrators, Brookline Early Education Program, and every curriculum department K-8

Developed budgets for multiple five-year scenarios of literacy initiative

Implemented district's first full-scale reading assessment, K-8

- Increased teacher participation in assessments to 99% (formerly 66-75%)
- Wrote and delivered training in new instrument, Benchmark Assessment System, to 300+ staff
- Developed protocols for fast, accurate data collection and analysis with focus on helping teachers improve instruction

Wrote district policies on assessment, intervention, and remedial programming

Implemented district's first targeted literacy intervention program, Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI)

- Established LLI in grades K-6 as collaboration between ELA and Special Education
- Secured multi-source funding from curriculum and district budgets, Title 1, and grants
- Within eight weeks of program launch, students made up to sixteen weeks of reading progress
- Student reading gains crossed lines of race, gender, language, and IEP status
- LLI teachers reported high levels of job satisfaction and increase in professional knowledge
- Program success led to expansion in both 2012-2013 and 2013-2014

Supervised multiple working teams:

- Literacy Specialists, 21 staff
- Leveled Literacy Intervention, 23 staff
- Grade 6-8 ELA teachers, 21 staff
- Project Discovery/Project Achieve summer reading programs, 19 staff
- Bookroom Renewal, 22 staff
- School-based Literacy Teams, 80 staff

New Teacher Developer, Boston Public Schools (BPS) **2006-2010**

Mentored for and modeled best instructional practices with novice teachers in 17 schools; developed data collection systems for assessments with teachers in grades PreK-12, in a wide range of content areas

Co-founded Professional Issues Committee of Boston Teachers Union (BTU) to promote increased collaboration between BTU and BPS on policy and curricular issues

Provided novice teachers with individualized mentoring: weekly classroom observations to gather pedagogical data, with debriefings to analyze data and plan future instructional goals

Developed and delivered graduate-level professional development to 250+ novice and veteran teachers

Kindergarten Teacher, Joseph P. Manning School, BPS

2000-2006

Established model kindergarten program showcasing effectiveness of multi-disciplinary, project-based pedagogy interweaving the arts with literacy, science, social sciences, and math

Developed novel approaches to representation of student assessment data; approaches adopted both school-wide and in other district schools

Piloted intensive year-long Writing in Kindergarten project with Mary Ellen Giacobbe and Martha Horn

Piloted new curriculum and served as demonstration teacher for district

Mediated staff/management concerns as Building Representative to ensure productive, ongoing focus on educational issues

Acting Assistant Principal, Charles Sumner School, BPS

1999-2000

Co-directed daily operations in K-5 school with over 60 staff and 500 students; established short- and long-term management priorities

Co-developed and coordinated school-wide rollout of innovative literacy assessment system in both English and Spanish; trained and supported all classroom staff in pilot program

Disseminated model and results of new assessment program with administrators from across district

Bilingual Teacher (Spanish), Grade 4, Charles Sumner School, BPS

1993-1999

Trained in and implemented balanced literacy approach through Literacy Collaborative, Lesley University; modified all instructional methods and materials for English Language Learners

Co-designed and delivered unique school reform project based on visual arts for both faculty and administration

Researched literacy programs as member of Whole School Reform Committee

Co-designed curriculum units with award-winning Special Education teacher for parallel use in with sub-separate and bilingual classrooms

Participated in district-wide Bilingual Reading and Literacy Textbook Adoption Committees

Conducted on-site evaluations throughout district of candidates for prestigious Harcourt Resident Teacher Award

Bilingual Teacher (Spanish), Grade 4, Chelsea Public Schools

1993-1994

Awarded Teacher of the Year after first year in elementary education

Developed social justice/literacy project on the writing of critical autobiographies; presented project in conjunction with faculty from Boston University at ESL educator conference

Director of Development, Mujeres Unidas en Acción, Boston

1991-1993

Revitalized development program of community-based non-profit for Latina woman and their children

Procured funding from foundations (both local and national) and government agencies

Communicated strategic vision to foundation officers; broadened base of foundation support

Launched inaugural individual giving campaign as part of emergency funding strategy and oversaw agency's fiscal viability after severe fire damage forced agency relocation

English as a Second Teacher, Mujeres Unidas en Acción, Boston

1990-1992

Developed creative public health programming through ESL education with Latina immigrants

Wrote and delivered professional seminars in anti-racism awareness for adult education community

Human Rights Team Member, Peace Brigades International, Guatemala

1987

Coordinated international volunteers protecting lives of threatened Guatemalans; trained short-term volunteers in strategic, non-violent responses to physical threats

Gathered documentation of human rights abuses and coordinated efforts with Canadian Embassy to provide refugee status for specific civilian targets

Awards, Distinctions, and Service

- Member, QUEST: Quality Education for Every Student, 2012 - 2014
- Strand Co-Chair, Literacy for All Conference, 2013
- Board Member, World Fellowship, 2013
- Coach, Assistant Coach, Jamaica Plain Children's and Youth Soccer, 2000-2002, 2012
- Prize Recipient, Sontag Prize in Urban Education, 2010
- Grant Recipient, Boston Fund for Teachers, 2006
- Board Member, KidsArts!, 2004-2005
- Grant Recipient, Gender Equity Initiative, Caroline and Sigmund Schott Foundation, 1999 - 2000
- Featured teacher, *Kindergarten Here We Come!*, Countdown to Kindergarten, 2001
- Fellow, Massachusetts Academy of Teachers; School Reform Initiative, 1996-1997
- Author and National Winner, Best Feature Story, American Federation of Teachers, Communication Association Annual Awards
- Teacher of the Year, Chelsea Public Schools, 1994

Selected Presentations

- Adult Literacy Resource Institute
- Associated Early Care and Education
- Boston Plan for Excellence
- Boston Public Schools
- Camp Starfish
- Childcare Choices of Boston
- Dorchester Center for Adult Education
- Dorchester International Women's Day
- Literacy for All
- Massachusetts Association for Bilingual Education
- Massachusetts Association of Teachers of Speakers of Other Languages
- Women's Theological Center

Education

1996 Ed.M., Bilingual Education, Boston University

1990 B.A., *summa cum laude*, English Literature, University of Massachusetts/Boston

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