

LYNDA BALMER-LUPP  
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### **PROFESSIONAL PROFILE**

- State Special Education Adviser with expertise in state-wide, large scale assessment systems for students with disabilities
- Project Director and Pennsylvania State Department of Education lead in multiple federally-funded research grants with national leaders of research including Arizona State University, the University of Minnesota, the University of Pittsburgh, Vanderbilt University, and the National Center on Educational Outcomes
- Contract manager for the state-wide alternate assessment
- Facilitator for the development of inclusive instruction of students with significant cognitive disabilities through the Pennsylvania Standards Aligned System

### **EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS**

Master of Educational Administration, Temple University, Harrisburg, PA 17126, 1999  
Bachelor of Science in Special Education, Millersville University, Millersville, PA 17551, 1994  
Professional Certificate, Administrative Level I, Elementary Principal Certification  
Professional Certificate, Level II, Mentally and Physically Handicapped, K-12

### **STATE POLICY EXPERIENCE**

**Special Education Adviser**, Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education, Harrisburg, PA, 2008-2011 and 2002-2004

- BSE lead for the Response to Instruction and Intervention Initiative for determination of specific learning disability determination
- Facilitator for standards aligned system development for students with significant cognitive disabilities via the University of Kentucky
- Bureau of Special Education (BSE) lead for state-wide assessment for students with disabilities including grade level assessment with accommodations, modified assessment, and alternate assessment
- Participant in multiple federally funded research grants including Project Director for Enhanced Assessment Instruments Grant
- Financial administrator of the state-wide, multi-million dollar Contingency Fund Account
- Representative partner of the Memorandum of Understanding Team of Pennsylvania for secondary transition
- Appointed member of the Mental Health Planning Council of Pennsylvania
- Departmental liaison for the Pennsylvania Special Education Advisory Panel
- State-wide member of the Child and Adolescent Service System Program (CASSP)
- Reviewer for the Higher Education Professional Educator Program Approval Team

### **LEADERSHIP AND SUPERVISORY EXPERIENCE**

**Chief, Division of Compliance, Monitoring and Planning Central**, Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education, Harrisburg, PA, 2004-2005

- Oversight of special education plans, cyclical monitoring, and compliance of 206 local educational agencies within 11 intermediate units

- Responsibility for policy and planning affecting statewide assessment of students with disabilities on the Pennsylvania System of Statewide Assessment (PSSA), Pennsylvania Alternate System of Assessment, and guidance relating to the 2% flexibility granted to states in assessment students with disabilities
- Operational oversight of the sixty-six million dollar Educational Assistance Program (EAP)/Tutoring Initiative of approximately 180 school districts
- Supervisor and evaluator of twenty employees

**Elementary Assistant Principal**, Donegal School District, Maytown and Riverview Elementary Schools, Mount Joy, PA, 2000-2002

- Instructional leader of two elementary schools
- Supervisor and evaluator of 40 professional and 20 paraprofessional staff
- Coordinator of district-wide summer school program
- Manager of student discipline and disciplinary procedures
- Coordinator of building level extra-curricular activities
- Facilitator of district-wide Differentiated Instructional Model of Supervision and Evaluation

**Coordinator of Elementary Special Education**, Donegal School District, Mount Joy, PA, 2000-2002

- Instructional leader of district elementary special education program
- Coordinator of district annual reviews of individualized education programs
- Supervisor of professional and paraprofessional staff
- Manager of transition from early intervention to school-aged programs

#### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Special Education Teacher**, Middletown Area School District, Middletown Area High School and Fink Elementary School, Middletown, PA, 1995-2000

**Special Education Teacher**, Elizabethtown Area School District, Elizabethtown Area Middle School, Elizabethtown, PA, 1994-1995

#### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRESENTATIONS**

CEC National Convention and Expo: **State-Level Perspectives of Alternate Assessments: Past, Present, and Future** (April 2011)

OSEP Project Director's Conference: **Panel Presentation: "Consequential Validity: A Presentation of Methods and Selected Results"** (July 2010)

Response to Instruction and Intervention Conference: **Panel Presentation: "Using RtII as a Method for SLD Determination: An Update on Programmatic, Regulatory and Legal Issues"** (June 2010)

PDE Conference: **Hot Topics in State Assessment for Students with IEPs** (April 2010)

Using Response to Instruction & Intervention (RtII) as a School Improvement - Hearing Officers Training Framework and Methodology for SLD Eligibility Determination (January 2010)

PSSA Accommodations Guidelines Training for IEP and 504 Students 2010 (January 2010)

Leadership Brown Bag Lunch Webinar: **What Special Education Leaders Need to Know About State Assessment** (December 2010)

Understanding the 1% and 2% Cap (November 2010)

PSSA-M Guidelines for IEP Teams: Spring 2010 Administration (October 2010)

Leadership Academy: **Navigating the Pennsylvania Assessment System for Students with Disabilities** (July 2009)

PSSA Accommodations Guidelines Training for IEP and 504 Students 2010 (January 2009)

Third Annual Employment Expo: **A Capital Investment** (October 2004)

Third Annual Communities of Practice Transition Conference: **Reaching Our Outcomes Together** (July 2004)

Independent Living Conference (June 2004)

Charter School Conference: **Special Education Funding Update** (May 2004)

National Conference of State Legislators: **Efficiency and Value Added: In Search of Real Cross-Agency Collaboration** (April 2004)

Annual Correctional/Alternative Education Professional Development Conference: **PSSA Accommodations Guidelines Update** (April 2004)

Office of Special Education Programs Joint Personnel Preparation/State Improvement/CSPD Conference: **Pennsylvania's Secondary Transition Community of Practice** (March 2004)

Title I Improving School Performance Conference: **Assessment and Accommodations: Effectively Using the 2004 PSSA Accommodations Guidelines Booklet** (March 2004)

Videoconference: **2004 PSSA Accommodations Guidelines Update** (February 2004)

17<sup>th</sup> Annual Children's Interagency Training Conference: **CASSP System of Best Practice** (April 2003)

Center for Safe Schools Conference: **Special Education and Safe Schools: Meeting the Challenges of the Most Disruptive Student** (April 2003)

Lebanon Valley Forum: No Child Left Behind: **Impact of No Child Left Behind on Teacher Preparation** (November 2003)

National Association of State Directors of Special Education: Leading and Managing in 2003: **Building Community Around Transition: The Cross-Stakeholder Approach to Improving Outcomes in Pennsylvania** (November 2003)

2003 OMR Statewide Convention: Everyday Lives: **School to Work Transition: Promising Practices** (November 2003)

#### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING**

Participant in state-level and national meetings including Council for Chief State School Officers subcommittee for Assessing Students In Special Education; PDE Annual Conference; SAS Train the Trainers for Curriculum Mapping;

Response to Intervention Planning and Training Team (August 2005)

Transition Communities of Practice (February 2004)

An Update of OSEP Corrective Action (January 2004)

Reading Interventions for Secondary Students with Learning Disabilities: A Focus on Decoding (September 2003)

Transition Communities of Practice: Strengthening and Expanding Local Interagency Transition Coordinating Councils and Teams (September 2003)

Progress Monitoring 2003-2004 Training Series (August 2003)

Professional Educator Program Approval Team Member (July 2003)

The Special Education Leadership Academy (July 2003)

Pennsylvania Transition Conference (June 2003)

PaTTAN Conference: Effective Special Education Programs: What Works and Why (March 2003)

Learning Strategies Instruction: A Focus on Reading Strategies (January 2003)

Community Schools/Coordinated Services (December 2002)  
Introductory Compliance Training (October 2002)  
Progress Monitoring Training for Trainers (August 2002)