

State System of Support Spotlight Series Presenter Biographies

Lori Sansbury Duerr, Ed.D., is responsible for professional development and instructional improvement in the Curriculum Improvement Branch at the Delaware Department of Education. Ms. Duerr leads the Delaware Education Support System (DESS) for the Department, co-leads the Response to Intervention (RTI) initiative and is the State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) Director. In the recent past, Ms. Duerr was responsible for the Positive Behavior Support and Inclusive Schools Initiatives and facilitated the new initiative, Connections to Learning. Ms. Duerr has been in the education field for twenty-five years as a teacher, counselor, and administrator; the last six years at the Department of Education. Her experience includes working with K-12 students, children with disabilities, struggling readers and extensive experience working with students with social, emotional, and behavioral challenges. Ms. Duerr's work integrated family involvement and parent training programs. Ms. Duerr also has extensive experience providing professional development and technical assistance for teachers and administrators in systems change efforts for the improvement of student performance.

Amelia Hodges, Ed.D., is the Director of Career & Technical Education and School Climate at the Delaware Department of Education. Previous roles at the department include Education Associate for Professional Development, Education Associate for Quality Assurance, and Education Specialist for Data Support. Dr. Hodges received her Bachelor's degree in Psychology, Master's of Education in Exceptional Youth and Children, and Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership, with a concentration in Administration and Policy, from the University of Delaware. Prior to her tenure at the Delaware Department of Education she taught students with disabilities at both elementary and secondary levels and managed Title I, Extra-Time and Kindergarten programs at the district level.