

ARLEEN L. WHEAT, E.D.D

WORK EXPERIENCE

2013 – Present

Point Park University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Assistant Professor, Education Department

- SPED 480/531 Professional Collaboration, Consultation and Communication
- SPED 281/536 High Incidence Disabilities –Evidence Based Effective Instruction
- SPED 380/534 Differentiated Instructional Practices in the Inclusive Classroom

2007 - Present

North Allegheny School District, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Assistant Superintendent of Special Education and Pupil Services

- Assumes full responsibility and leadership of the Special Education, Gifted Education and the Pupil Services Department K-12 including:
 - Special Education
 - Gifted Education
 - Health Services
 - Psychological Services
 - Student Assistance Program
 - School Counseling
 - Social Work
 - English as a Second Language
 - Homebound
 - Homeschool
 - Homeless Liaison
 - Central Registration
 - PIMS Student Data System
- Serves as a member of the Superintendent's Executive Council and as an Administrative Liaison on key committees which includes: Ministerium, Superintendent's Parent Liaison, Diversity, Leadership Council, Strategic Planning and Business Roundtable Meetings.
- Develops and authors school board policies and administrative procedures
- Coordinates, facilitates and analyzes all standardized school assessment data results and authors the annual Report of Student Achievement.
- Presents at School Board meetings on relevant topics.
- Provides training to Building Principals and other Management Support Staff on Special Education and Pupil Services Topics
- Coordinates and Conducts Parent Forums

- Member of the Strategic Planning Committee and author/contributor of the Special Education and Student Services Plan
- Coordinates and facilitates key district committees and includes the School, Community and Police Partnership; Special Education Advisory Committee, Gifted Advisory Committee, English as a Second Language Committee and Parent Forums.
- Assists with staff development and training and is a member of the Professional Education Committee.
- Provides consultation for the District's newly designed cyber-academy program

2002 – 2007

North Allegheny School District, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Supervisor of Special Education

- Assumed full responsibility for the operations and work outcomes for the Special Education Department including Gifted Education.
- Led the PDE Compliance Monitoring Review.
- Planned, organized, supervised, coordinated and reviewed major functions of the Special Education Department
- Facilitated Special Education Leadership Team meetings
- Developed and maintained the Special Education Job Operations Manual
- Represented the Special Education Department in a variety of meetings such as MST, EST/SST, Chapter 14 Advisory Committee, Chapter 16 Advisory Committee, Regional Special Education Liaison meetings
- Oversaw the Special Education budget including IDEA and ACCESS funds
- Determined priorities in departmental purchasing
- Coordinated efforts with building Principals
- Represented the District in Due Process and Mediation Hearings
- Oversaw all contracted services supporting students with special needs such as Occupational/Physical Therapy, Hearing Interpreters and outside placement contracts
- Acted as a liaison for the Director of Special Education and Pupil Services regarding Special Education issues
- Responded to parental concerns and issues raised by community members and or groups
- Prepared technical documents regarding the operations of Special Education
- Monitored the implementation of innovative program such as the Autistic Support and Life Skills Support classes, reading programs such as *Language!*, Read Naturally and Rewards, the redesign of social work services, the deaf/hearing impaired program at the secondary level and 4 Sight Benchmark Assessments
- Monitored proposed State and Federal legislation regarding Special Education
- Interviews prospective professional and/or paraprofessional staff
- Provided leadership and supervision to the professional and

paraprofessional staff within the Special Education Department

- Conducted observations and provides written feedback to new professional staff.
- Assisted building Principals in the development and implementation of programs of improvement, as needed.
- Coordinated Extended School Year programs for students with special needs
- Sought grant opportunities such as Contingency Funds, Paraeducator Grant and Inclusive Practices Grant

1997 – 2002

Armstrong School District Ford City, Pennsylvania

Associate Director of Special Education

- Coordinated special education programs for 1000+ students with Individualized Education Programs in a school district with an enrollment of 7,000 students
- Coordinated the transition of students from early intervention programs
- Budgeted for the special education programs, \$6.5 million
- Coordinated funding sources such as ACCESS, IDEA B and contingency funds.
- Assisted with staff development and training of district teachers
- Supervised 50 special education teachers, 8 speech/language pathologists, 1 occupational therapist, 1 physical therapist, 1 vision support teacher, 1 hearing support teacher, 4 school psychologists, 1 transition coordinator/behavior specialist, 1 Perkins Facilitator
- Certified trainer of Nonviolent Crisis Prevention Intervention techniques

1993-1997

Allegheny Intermediate Unit Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Supervisor of Special Education Programs

- Supervised special education teachers of learning, emotional and life skills support district-based and center-based classrooms
- Provided technical assistance, consultation and in-service workshops to school districts within Allegheny County

1993-1995

Allegheny Intermediate Unit Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Gateways Inclusion Specialist

- Provided technical assistance and inservice workshops to school districts of Allegheny County in best practices on the inclusion of students with disabilities
- Provided technical assistance and training on positive behavioral support plans

1978-1993

Allegheny Intermediate Unit Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Special Education Teacher

- Taught students with autism, severe disabilities, emotional disabilities, and learning disabilities.

- Acted in the capacity of Head Teacher at the Allegheny Intermediate Unit's Autistic Program
- Assisted teachers with behavioral and instructional programs and chaired team meetings.
- Served as a consultant to school districts and approved private schools on instructional and behavioral strategies for students with autism.

1989-2000

USAAC Monroeville, Pennsylvania

Director of Summer Program for the Education of Autistic Kids

- Supervised staff on the day to day operation of the program
- Designed, coordinated and evaluated the program
- Planned and presented in-service training for staff members.
- Analyzed and disseminated all program reports to parents, school districts and intermediate units.

EDUCATION

2003	Duquesne University	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
	<i>Doctorate in Education</i>	
2002	Duquesne University	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
	<i>Letter of Eligibility</i>	
	<i>Principal Certification K-12</i>	
1992	University of Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
	<i>Supervisor of Special Education Certification</i>	
1985	University of Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
	<i>Masters Degree in Education</i>	
1978	Indiana University of Pennsylvania	Indiana, Pennsylvania
	<i>Bachelors of Science in Education</i>	

PRESENTATIONS

“Special Education Funding Formula Commission”, Senator Browne, University of Pittsburgh, August, 2013.

“Special Education Challenges Facing Pennsylvania School Districts,” Pennsylvania Senate Majority Policy Committee, Harrisburg, PA, January, 2013.

“Charter School Written Testimony”, North Hills School District Public Hearing, 2005.

Women’s Caucus, Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators
2004 Annual Spring Conference, Hershey, Pennsylvania
“Women in Educational Leadership: Past and Current Voices in Research and Practice”.

University Council for Educational Administrators Convention
2005 Annual Conference, Nashville, Tennessee
“Illuminating Contributors and Barriers to Women's Leadership: A University/State Association Partnership Towards Social Justice”.

2001 Autism Society of America State Conference,
Greensburg, Pennsylvania
The Development of Summer Recreation Programs for Students with Autism, The S.P.E.A.K. Model

Allegheny County Schools
Inclusive Strategies for Schools (1993-1995)

Allegheny Intermediate Unit
Behavior Management Strategies (1993-1997)

Keystone Oaks High School
Autism Lecture to Child Development Classes (1991)

St. Anthony’s School for Exceptional Children
Autism (1991)

Duquesne University
Autism Symposium
Development of a Functional Curriculum for Students with Autism

University of Pittsburgh
Conference for Adults with Severe Disabilities, 1988
Community-Based Instruction

University of Pittsburgh
Community-Based Instruction and Functional Curricula for Secondary Students with Severe Disabilities (1987)

AWARDS

Distinguished Achievement Award, 2006
PA Inspired Leadership Support Program
Distinguished Achievement Award, 2005
PA Association of School Administrators
Distinguished Achievement Award, 2005
University Council for Educational Administrators
Graduate Stipend Recipient,
University of Pittsburgh, 1984

MEDIA APPEARANCES

For Your Information (FYI)

Autism

Duquesne University

Autism

W.P.G.H. Television

W.D.U.Q. FM Radio