

Joseph E. Buckley, Ed.D

Acton, MA

Professional Experience

Edclectics, LLC: Principal/Partner (2001- Present). Edclectics, LLC is a leadership consulting organization specializing in developing and sustaining leadership, culture building and change, diversity training, and educational executive searches.

Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents; (2001 – Present). Coaching and mentoring services to new school superintendents. Worked with approximately 60 new school superintendents over the past four years

Cambridge College Graduate School / Instructor (1999 – Present) Courses include:

- *Advanced Leadership*
- *Legal Aspects of School Administration*
- *School Management and the Law*
- *Managing Financial Resources*
- *Professional Seminars at Master’s Degree & CAGS Levels: Areas of focus, in addition to Research, include: Leadership; Organizational Development & Behavior; Introducing and Managing Change; Linking Practice & Theory.*

Superintendent of Schools (Retired). Bedford Public Schools, Bedford, MA 01730, **1981-2001.** Bedford is an economically developed suburb with approximately 13,000 residents. One high school, a middle school and two elementary schools serve approximately 2600 students. Areas of personal strength and significant focus include: **leadership, motivation, personnel, fiscal planning, community/culture building, project construction & management, and communication.**

- **Leadership:** provided dynamic leadership to influence and **shape the school system’s culture** so that it energized classroom instruction and stimulated discussion and dialogue. This effort resulted in the development and articulation of **systemic core values, a clear vision statement for the school system, and a culture of coherence.**
- **Motivation:** Demonstrated ability to *stimulate and motivate the leadership team, professional and support staff* as evidenced by a highly productive, *collegial work environment*, which produced consistently **high levels of student achievement.**
- **Personnel:** Attracted and maintained a highly competent professional staff. Implemented a multi-faceted *Professional Development Plan* and a formal *Induction/Mentoring Program* for teachers. Developed an *Affirmative Action Plan* to increase levels of minority recruitment hiring, and retention.
- **Fiscal Planning & Budget:** Supervised the development and administration of FY Budgets; FY 2002 Budget was 20.2 million dollars. Member of the *Fiscal Planning Committee (FPC)* charged with analyzing and assessing the Town’s financial resources. Worked with the FPC and the Bedford School Committee to ensure appropriate levels of funding to maintain high performing schools. State of the art programs such as an *inclusive Special Education model*, an *Elementary Foreign Language Program* for all children, a *full day Kindergarten Program*, and *Gifted Program* were some of the beneficiaries of this effort
- **Community Building:** “Respect for differences” is a core value of the Bedford Public Schools. To promote this value, I made presentations, wrote articles, and participated in community-wide discussions and forums focused on **“Diversity”, “Diversity in Education”, “Building Acceptance in a Community”, and “Issues of Social Justice”.**
- **Project Construction & Management:** Advocated for and received local endorsement and state funding for: a new K-2 elementary school; a major renovation/expansion of the Lane (grades 3-5) elementary school; and the major renovation and expansion of the John Glenn Middle School. Secured local capital commitment for multi-year renovation of high school. **Participated in the design of each building project and supervision of the construction phase.**
- **Communication:** Participated in numerous *public speaking and writing initiatives* committed to provoking practitioners and policy makers to question or reflect on their beliefs and practices

Professional Activities & Associations

Assumed key leadership roles in the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (M.A.S.S.), the EDCO Collaborative, the LABB (Lexington, Arlington, Bedford and Belmont) Collaborative Board of Directors, the CASE (Concord Area Special Education) Board of Directors, and the Bedford Business Education Alliance (BBEA).

Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (M.A.S.S.)

2000-2001, Vice President and President Elect. Responsible for formulating and articulating the positions of the association in critical areas such as *high stakes testing, school building assistance, the foundation budget, and instructional technology initiatives.*

1997-2001, Executive Board Member. Officer of the Association

1995-2003, Professional Development Committee member. Responsible for developing and organizing staff development programs for Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents. In addition, this committee plans and oversees the major conferences throughout the year as well as the four-day Executive Institute in July.

Institute and Workshop Presentations:

Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents' (M.A.S.S.) Leadership Academies, 1998 – Present.

Presentations and seminars include:

- **Preserving the Soul of the Schoolhouse.**
- **Supervision and Evaluation of School Leaders**
- **The Cultural Change Leader**
- **Leadership and Change**
- **Leadership and School Culture**
- **Developing and Sustaining School Leaders**
- **Leadership and Emotional Intelligence**

Other Workshops and Seminars include:

- **“Issues of Social Justice and Diversity”** Presenter at a two day seminar sponsored by The Educational Collaborative of Greater Boston. (1999)
- **“Leadership and Dynamics of the Superintendency”**, three one-day workshops focusing on the critical role of the school superintendent in providing leadership to the school district and community
- **“Critical Issues in Education: The Year in Review”**, presentation for the M.A.S.S. Executive Institute (July 18-21, 2000).
- **Panelist: Recruiting and Retaining Talented School Leaders (1999) (2000); School Committee/Superintendent Relations (1997) (2002) (2003); “Safe Schools” (1999); “Is There a Conspiracy to Undermine Public Schools” (1998); “What Makes a Successful Superintendent (1997) (1998); and “Legal Issues in Education”. (1996).**
- **Chair.** Orientation Program and **Workshop for New Superintendents. (2000)**

Writings

- **“Standards, Not Standardization”**, a position paper arguing for a thoughtful reconsideration of the move to high stakes testing in Massachusetts. Published: **PERSPECTIVE**, The Massachusetts Association of School Curriculum Development (MASCD) Publication, **The Boston Sunday Globe; The Bedford Minuteman**; and the **Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents Monthly Publication.**
- **“Revisited”**, a poem challenging the reader to reflect on author bias and perspective when reading history. Accepted for publication in The Wellesley College Center for Research on Women/S.E.E.D. Project on Inclusive Curriculum Newsletter.
- **“School Culture,”** a paper, jointly authored for the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents, discussing the power and important value of positive school culture.

Massachusetts Corporation for Educational Telecommunications (MCET)

- *Chair.* Superintendents' Program Advisory Board (1998-2001).
- *Member.* Superintendents' Program Advisory Board (1992-2001).

Project Alliance – Middlesex Partnerships for Youth, Inc. *Project Alliance is a collaborative of over fifty Middlesex County school districts, police departments and the District Attorney's Office. Together they examine social, legal and health-related issues and provide educational programs and solutions to issues facing school districts and communities.*

- **Board of Directors. Middlesex Partnerships for Youth, Inc. (1993-2004).**
Member: Management Committee, Middlesex Partnership for Youth, Inc. (1998-2001).
- Chair. Superintendents' Program Advisory Committee (1998-2001).

EDCO: Member, Board of Directors. *EDCO is a Collaborative of 22 school districts in Greater Boston providing direct services to students and professional development opportunities for teaching and administrative staff. I served the Collaborative in the following capacities:*

- Technology Subcommittee (1994-1999).
- Budget Subcommittee (1989-2001).
- Chairman of the Board (1992-1994).
- Staff Development Subcommittee (1988-1990).

LABBB: Member, Board of Directors (*Lexington, Bedford, Burlington, and Belmont Special Education Collaborative*)

- Responsible for fiscal planning, policy development, and oversight for the Special Education Collaborative. (1981-2001).

CASE: Member, Board of Directors (*Concord Area Special Education Collaborative*)

- Chairman of the Board (1989-1991).
- Vice Chairman of the Board (1987-1989).
- Member, Program Evaluation Committee (1988) (1990) (1993) (1995) (1998).

Honors and Awards

- *Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents: - President's Award for Outstanding Leadership and Distinguished Service to Education.*
- *Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents: - Christos Daoulas Award for Outstanding Leadership and Contributions to Education*
- *The EDCO Collaborative of Greater Boston: A collaborative of 22 high performing school districts in Greater Boston. Presented an "Outstanding Leadership Award."*
- *The EDCO Collaborative of Greater Boston: Proclamation Citing Outstanding Contributions to the Collaborative.*
- *Joseph E. Buckley Library and Technology Center. New library and technology center dedicated in my honor.*
- *Joseph E. Buckley Auditorium. Bedford High School Auditorium named in my honor.*

Previous Professional Experience

- *Superintendent of Schools.* Falmouth School Department, Falmouth, Maine.
- *Assistant Superintendent of Schools.* Norwell Public Schools, Norwell, Massachusetts.
- *Assistant to Superintendent and Acting Superintendent.* South Kingston School Department, South Kingston, Rhode Island.
- *Principal-Teacher.* Readsboro Central School, Readsboro, Vermont.
- *English and Social Studies Teacher.* Agawam High School, Agawam, Massachusetts.

Other Experience/Interests

- **Adjunct Instructor; Raytheon Institute/State College at Fitchburg, (1986-1997).**
- **Harvard Roundtable of Superintendents, (1983-present).**
- **Bedford Business Education Alliance (BBEA), founding board member, 1992.**
- **Hobbies: *Running* (completed 16 marathons), *Swimming*, *Reading* and *Writing*.**

Educational Background

University of Massachusetts, Graduate School of Education. Ed.D., September 2004.

University of Massachusetts, Graduate School of Education. CAGS, 2002

Boston University. Ed.D. Course Work. Department of System's Development and Adaptation.

Springfield College, Springfield, MA. M.Ed., Teacher Education.

St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Nova Scotia. B.A. Major: Social Sciences; Minor: English.

Massachusetts Certification #142103 (Superintendent of Schools; Principal, Elementary and Secondary levels; and Teacher, Elementary and Secondary levels).