



# *Board of Directors*

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**Dr. Veronica Ent**

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|  <p><b>Dr. Kyle LaPaglia</b></p> |  <p><b>Dr. Robin Drogan</b></p>                       |  <p><b>Dr. Tricia Shelton</b></p> |
|  <p><b>Dr. Linda Rhen</b></p>    |  <p><b>Mr. Joel Geary</b><br/>Executive Director</p> |                                                                                                                      |

### *Officer Bios*

**Dr. James  
Preston**

Jim is in his 19th year at **Slippery Rock University**, serving as Interim Dean in the College of Education. Jim earned his Doctor of Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction from IUP. He spent 13 years as a secondary mathematics teacher. Jim is a board member of the PA Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (PAMTE). As a member of PAC-TE and ATE, he has been an attendee and contributor at both organizations' conferences. Jim was the conference chairperson of the National Student Teaching and Supervision Conference.

**Dr. Tom  
Conway**

Tom is the Associate Dean of the College of Education at **Kutztown University**. In addition, Tom is in line to become President of the Association of Teacher Educators (ATE) in 2028. He served as co-editor of the *Pennsylvania Teacher Educator*. His research areas include mentoring & coaching, advocacy, socio-cultural issues, secondary education, leadership, educational technology, and DEIB.

Dr. Stephanie  
Gardner

Steph is an Associate Professor of Special Education at **Commonwealth University of PA at Bloomsburg**. She received a B.S. in Special Education from Penn State and taught in NY and PA as a special educator, later earning an M. Ed in Elementary Education from Bloomsburg University and a Ph.D. in Special Education from Penn State. She was an Assistant Professor at Susquehanna University for 5 years before joining Commonwealth University's faculty in 2018. In 2021, she received the PAC-TE Teacher Educator of the Year Award and chaired the TEA. She maintains membership in CEC, ATE, and PAC-TE and has Question-Persuade-Refer trainer certification. Most recently, she completed the 2024-25 Education Policy and Leadership Center's Fellowship program and served on PDE's Education Talent Recruitment and the CSIU's Teacher Apprenticeship Program-PA committees.

Dr. Jane M.  
Wilburne

Jane is Professor Emerita of Mathematics Education at **Penn State Harrisburg**. Her service to professional organizations includes serving as President of the Pennsylvania Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators, The Pennsylvania Educational Research Association, and the Pennsylvania Association of Supervisors of Mathematics. As the Principal Investigator on multiple research projects funded by the NSF, the Mathematics and Science Partnership, and PDE, she learned the importance of managing finances to ensure the sustainability and effectiveness of the projects. She has presented at many of the annual conferences, reviewed conference proposals, and reviewed manuscripts for the *Pennsylvania Teacher Educator*.

Dr. Rachael  
Stevens

At-large

Rachael is a faculty member in the School of Education at **Marywood University**. She earned her Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from the University of the Cumberlands, Williamsburg, Kentucky. She holds an M.Ed. in Elementary Education from Campbell University, Buies Creek, North Carolina and holds multiple teaching certificates and has taught in a variety of K-12 settings for a combination of 21 years in Pennsylvania and North Carolina. Her undergraduate degree is from Bloomsburg University. At Marywood,

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|                                       | <p>she co-chairs the curriculum committee for the school of education and is a co-moderator for Kappa Delta Phi-Education Honor Society and MUSE—Marywood University Student Educators. In addition to serving on the board of directors for PAC-TE, she is also a member of ATE and a lifetime member of the FCCLA Alumni &amp; Associates.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <p>Stephanie Long</p> <p>At-large</p> | <p>Stephanie is the Interim Dean of the Education &amp; Behavioral Sciences Division at <b>Butler County Community College</b>. She is also an instructor in the College's Praxis/PECT teacher certification test prep program. She serves on the Mission, Vision, and Goals Committee, the Strategic Planning Committee, and the Middle States Commission on Higher Education Committee. In addition, she is a Higher Ed Consortium member. Stephanie presented at the Virtual Conference – Assessing Student Learning Effectiveness presented by HH Education Events. Stephanie received both her B.S. in Education and Master of Education from Slippery Rock University.</p>                                                                                                                                                             |
| <p>Dr. Carole Hoy</p> <p>At-large</p> | <p>Carole is the Assistant Dean of Assessment and Clinical Experiences at <b>Saint Joseph's University</b>. Her leadership in curriculum development, certification, and community engagement has significantly contributed to the university's dynamic approach to preparing future educators. Carole holds a Doctor of Education from Saint Joseph's University and brings over 37 years of experience in PK - 12 education. Before joining Saint Joseph's full-time, she served as an elementary principal, a middle school assistant principal, and high school assistant principal for 18 years. Additionally, Dr. Hoy spent 15 years as an art teacher before transitioning into administration. She is also an Adjunct Professor in the Educational Leadership Department, with a strong focus on developing educational leaders.</p> |
| <p>Dr. Kathleen Post</p>              | <p>Kathy is the Director of Accreditation &amp; Project Development at <b>East Stroudsburg University</b>, where she has served for the past 11 years. In this role, she leads the collection of evidence for the College of</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

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| <p>At-large</p>                                          | <p>Education's assessment infrastructure for CAEP accreditation, SPA accreditations, and PDE Major Review. She also acts as a PDE Certifying Officer and provides training to students related to certification tests and TIMS certification. She works closely with the Office of Field Experience and Partnerships, manages their data management system, and provides technical support to all students, faculty, and cooperating teachers. Her prior experience includes teaching 7th-12th-grade mathematics and computer science and working as a content developer designing interactive math lessons for an online learning management system. Dr. Post completed her B.S. degree in Mathematics and Secondary Education at Houghton College (NY) and earned a M.Ed. degree in Instructional Technology and an Ed.D in Educational Leadership &amp; Administration at East Stroudsburg University. Kathy's professional interests include teacher education, data literacy, and technology-enabled teaching &amp; learning, and she is a member of AALHE, PAC-TE, and ISTE. Kathy is an active member of her church, serving as a deaconess, board member, and treasurer, and in her free time enjoys reading by the lake and solo travelling.</p> |
| <p>Dr. Veronica<br/>Ent<br/>Private<br/>Institutions</p> | <p>Veronica is a Professor of Education at <b>Saint Vincent College</b>, Latrobe, PA. Her main research areas are the advances in instructional technology and visual media for instruction, blended learning and teaching, innovative instructional methodologies, and the history of American schooling. Veronica has proposed models for teacher preparation in the training of online technologies, strategies for synchronous online learning, rethinking historical technological applications, and approaches for visual learning. She received her Ed. D. in Instructional Design and Technology from the University of Pittsburgh. She teaches courses in instructional technology, curriculum design, online instruction, and visual thinking and learning. She coaches and advises the Saint Vincent College intercollegiate equestrian program where she instructs students in horsemanship. Veronica was an elementary teacher for two years and a high school librarian at Greensburg Salem School District for eight years. She currently serves as the president of the Country</p>                                                                                                                                                       |

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|                                                                 | <p>School Association of America, a national organization dedicated to the preservation and research of early American one-room schools.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <p>Dr. Briana<br/>Bronstein</p> <p>Private<br/>Institutions</p> | <p>Briana is an Assistant Teaching Professor at <b>Widener University</b>. She received my Ph.D. in Special Education from Temple University and completed her postdoctoral training at Rutgers University. As a former K-5 autism support teacher in PA, teaching future educators to work in the field is especially meaningful to Briana. She teaches at the undergraduate and graduate levels in the special education department. She collaborates closely with the Community Engaged Teacher Education program and enjoys helping pre-service teachers prepare for their future careers! In addition to her work in academia, she is an active member and leader of the Council for Exceptional Children at both national and state levels. She is the past president of PA-CEC and has served on the board for several years.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <p>Dr. Kyle<br/>LaPaglia</p> <p>Private<br/>Institutions</p>    | <p>Kyle serves as the Director of the School of Education at <b>Gannon University</b> in Erie, Pennsylvania. He holds advanced degrees in education and leadership, with a professional background deeply rooted in special education and teacher preparation. His career began in Naples, Florida, where he taught second and fifth grade before moving into leadership roles as an Exceptional Student Education Specialist and Assistant Principal. At Gannon, Kyle has spearheaded innovative initiatives aimed at addressing the teacher shortage. These include the development of an Accelerated Special Education Program, the Teacher Intern Certification pathway, and a forthcoming AI Endorsement Program. His work emphasizes collaboration with K–12 school districts, the expansion of dual-enrollment opportunities, and Act 48/45 professional development offerings to strengthen teacher pipelines across Pennsylvania. He is actively engaged in professional organizations, including the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), and the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).</p> |

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| <p>Dr. Robin<br/>Drogan<br/><br/>Public<br/>Institutions</p>   | <p>Robin is a professor and graduate coordinator, serving <b>Commonwealth University, Bloomsburg</b>, in a variety of capacities. She served on the University Curriculum Committee and serves as the Graduate Coordinator of the Department of Early Childhood and Exceptionality Programs, working with graduate students to obtain certification. She is the recipient of state and local grants to enhance instruction for pre-service teachers. As a scholar, her work has focused on the application of behavioral supports and PBS, teaming and collaboration, and special education leadership. In addition to PAC-TE, she is a member of the Association of Positive Behavior Supports and the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), including subdivisions DADD, DEC, CCB, and TED.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <p>Dr. Tricia<br/>Shelton<br/><br/>Public<br/>Institutions</p> | <p>Tricia has spent many years in early childhood education, teaching first and third grades and serving as an elementary school principal. She is currently an assistant professor at <b>Slippery Rock University</b>. A lifelong learner, Tricia holds a master's in education and a doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction. Her research focuses on teacher attitudes and inclusion of students with ASD, and she works with local organizations to support inclusive environments for youth with ASD. She was a 2014 finalist of the Pennsylvania Autism Connection Temple Grandin Award. Dr. Shelton has published with the Keystone State Reading Association (KSRA). Her article, Supporting Students with Autistic Spectrum Disorders in Inclusive Literacy Classrooms, was featured in the 2012 Spring/Summer issue of the professional journal, Pennsylvania Reads. Her research was presented at the 2012 Pennsylvania National Association of Multicultural Education (PA-NAME) conference at Millersville University, the 2013 Eastern Education Research Association (EERA) conference in Sarasota, Florida, and the 2014 National Autism Conference at the Pennsylvania State University.</p> |
| <p>Dr. Linda<br/>Rhen</p>                                      | <p>Linda retired in 2026 as Teaching Professor of Special Education, Special Education Certification Coordinator, Career Studies Director at <b>Penn State Harrisburg</b>, and previous Associate Chair for Assessment and Accreditation. She earned a B.S in Speech</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

**Public  
Institutions**

Language Pathology at Clarion State College, an M.Ed. in Special Education at Shippensburg University, and an Educational Administration doctorate at Temple University. Professional activities: PSH faculty - 18 years; Accreditation leader; PDE Director of School Services and Policy Adviser, Director of Bureau of Special Education; Lancaster-Lebanon IU Executive Director and Special Education Director; Project Director at Central Susquehanna IU; and Speech and Language Therapist at Capital Area IU. Memberships: ASCD, Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) and PFCEC, Association for the Severely Handicapped (TASH) and PA TASH, president of the PA Association of Intermediate Units and American Association of School Administrators (AASA), board president of the Parent Education and Leadership Center (PEAL). Professional activities: AAQEP accreditation committees, testifying at PA state legislative hearings, PA State Board of Education, and a U.S. House hearing on use of Medicaid funds for special education services.

**Mr. Joel  
Geary  
Executive  
Director**

Joel held numerous roles in basic education, including positions as an elementary and middle school teacher, a high school reading specialist and instructional coach, and as President of the Educators of Lower Dauphin/PSEA. Joel earned his degrees from Clarion University and Millersville University, and he also pursued studies in institutional research through Penn State World Campus. Additionally, he worked for the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) for several years as the state curriculum consultant in Language Arts. In 2008, he served PDE as a program approval liaison for educator preparation providers, eventually serving as interim Manager for the Division of Teacher Quality and the Division of Professional Education. While collaborating with his leadership team at PDE, he found their skepticism and lack of understanding of the incredible work of teacher educators across the state unacceptable. His interactions with PAC-TE fueled his passion for advocating for teacher educators.

In 2013, a true blessing unfolded when Penn State Harrisburg invited Joel to serve as the Certification Officer & Projects Manager. During seven joyful years, he contributed to accreditation, state and

federal reporting, and the development of the undergraduate residency program.

Now retired, he enjoys traveling, spending time with his three grandchildren (with another on the way), and exploring his family's ancestry. He authored a 335-page book titled *In Case You're Wondering*, which traces his family tree and shares the WWII love story of his parents. Joel cherishes his role with PAC-TE, consistently reminding the Board that he is here to serve you.