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### **Education**

- October 2014** Doctor of Education in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis on Staff Development and Disciplinary Literacy, Argosy University, Sarasota Florida
- June 1998** Masters in Curriculum and Instruction, National Louis University, Tampa Florida
- June 1986** Bachelors in Elementary Education, University of South Florida, Tampa

### **Professional Experience**

- Social Studies Program Specialist**, The School Board of Sarasota County, Sarasota Florida.  
2002 – present.
- Curriculum Coordinator**, The School Board of Sarasota County, Sarasota Florida. 1998 – 2002.
- Director of Education**, Embracing Our Differences, Sarasota, Florida. 2011- present.
- Curriculum Liaison**, Florida Holocaust Museum. 1998 – 2006.
- Classroom Teacher**, The School Board of Sarasota County, McIntosh Middle School, Grades 6-8.  
1987 – 1998.

### **Professional Consulting**

- University of South Florida and Embracing Our Differences**, Sarasota, Florida.  
Creation and development of diversity online certificate program. 2017.
- Florida Studio Theater**, Sarasota, Florida  
Talk Back Gidion's Knot, Dialogues on Diversity. Post-show, panel discussion about diversity programs sponsored by Embracing Our Differences and the Sarasota County School Board. 2017.
- Florida West Coast Black Theater Troupe**, Sarasota Florida  
Development of curriculum and evaluations. 2016.
- Herald Tribune Media Group**, Sarasota Florida  
Development of curriculum, content consultations. 2001 – 2016.
- First Congregational UCC of Sarasota**, Florida.  
Teaching Peace and Justice in our Schools. 2012.
- Center for Humanistic Judaism**, Sarasota, Florida  
Teaching Holocaust, Human Rights and Genocide Education in our Schools. 2010.
- Holocaust Museum Chicago**, Chicago, Illinois.  
Consultation Children's Interactive exhibit. Curriculum and staff development for museum educators and area teachers. 2007.

## **Publications**

### ***Curriculum Development***

*Integration of Social Studies and English Language Arts.* (2017) School Board of Sarasota County, Sarasota, Florida.

Primary source alignment to core English language arts information text.

*The Harlem Renaissance.* (2016) Florida West Coast Black Theater Troupe, Sarasota Florida.

Integrated primary sources, music, art and literature creating primary and secondary source sets for high school implementation.

*Social Studies Curriculum K-12.* (1998. 2001) School Board of Sarasota County, Sarasota, Florida.

Curriculum development, presentation and secondary implementation.

### ***Print***

*Newspaper in Education* (1999 – 2016) Sarasota Herald Tribune: Sarasota, Florida.

Consultant on specific historical, economic, geographic, and civic content. Contributing author and curriculum design for:

Looking for Angola Series (2011)

Immigration (2010)

Embracing Our Differences (2010, 2011, 2012)

A View Across Time (2010), Discovery, (2011)

History in Your Own Backyard (2011)

Constitutional Amendments (2010)

An Election Like None Other (student edition) (2010, 2016)

Constitutional Amendments (2014)

Civics (2014, 2016).

## **Grants**

Tavalin, F. & Bennett, B. (2009) Teaching American History Grant: Casting the Net, Grades 5-12. Sarasota, Florida. Sarasota County Schools.

Acted as Project Director, content contributor and facilitated grants at participating schools.

## **Recent Conference Presentations**

**October 2016:** **Social Studies. Who Has Time For It?** Florida Reading Association Conference, Orlando, Florida. Presented with Dr. Suzanne Naiman.

**April 2016:** **Political Cartoons: Crossing the Racial Border.** National Council for History Education, Niagara Falls, NY.

**October 2015:** **Sneakonomics: K-5 Decision-making.** 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Literacy and Economic Education Conference. St. Petersburg, Florida. Presented with Dr. Deborah Kozdras.

## **Recent Staff Development Creation**

Elementary Historical Literacy (2016 – 2017) Title 1 staff development, and classroom modeling of disciplinary literacy with fourth and fifth grade students.

Embracing Our Differences Summer Diversity Institutes (2015, 2016, 2017) Sarasota, Florida.

Coexistence Inc.

### **Recent Staff Development Creation (continued)**

Embracing Our Differences Art Educator Retreat (2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017) Sarasota, Florida. Coexistence Inc.

DBQ-High School (2013) Sarasota, Florida.  
Sarasota County Schools.

Common Core State Standards for Teacher Leaders (2013) Sarasota, Florida.  
Sarasota County Schools.

The Courts and the Constitution, Florida Supreme Court (2013) Tallahassee, Florida.  
Teaching American History Grant.

Florida Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference (2012) Orlando, Florida.  
Florida Council for the Social Studies.

Common Core Summer Institute for Teacher Leaders (2012) Sarasota, Florida.  
Sarasota County Schools.

George Washington: His Role in the Continental Congress (2012) Dr. Ed Lengel, Sarasota, Florida. Teaching American History Grant.

The Myths of George Washington (2012) Dr. Ed Lengel, Sarasota, Florida.  
Teaching American History Grant.

Exploration of Florida's Primary Sources (2012) P.K. Yonge Library, Gainesville, Florida.  
Teaching American History Grant.

Historical Thinking and Professional Practice (2011) Mount Vernon, Virginia and Washington, D.C. Teaching American History Grant.

Civil War to Civil Rights: Savannah (2011) Savannah, Georgia.  
Teaching American History Grant.

Gathering of People, Places, and Ideas: How Do We Understand a People or Civilization Beyond the Written Record? (2011) Tallahassee, Florida.  
Teaching American History Grant.

Special Topics in Curriculum & Instruction: Liberty, Free Enterprise and Law (2011) Sarasota, Florida. Argosy University.

Spanish Florida: St. Augustine (2010) St. Augustine, Florida.  
Teaching American History Grant.

Teaching Like a Historian (2010) Dr. Sam Wineburg, Sarasota, Florida.  
Teaching American History Grant.

### **Professional Affiliations**

**Founding Member**, Florida Council For History Education. 2016 – present.

**Member**, National Council for History Education. 2015 – present.

**Member**, Florida Council of Social Studies Supervisor. 1998- present.

**Member**, Gus A Stavros Center for Free Enterprise and Economic Education University of South Florida Advocacy Board. 1998 – present.

### **Honors and Awards**

**Honoree:** The Gus A. Stavros Center for Enterprise and Economic Education:  
Exemplary Leadership in the Promotion of Economic Education, 2011

**Honoree:** The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution – Women  
In History, Sara de Soto Chapter DAR, 2009

**Honoree:** Model Teacher of Critical Thinking, School Board of Sarasota County, 1993

### **Recent Personal Training Experience**

Ashland University, Ashbrook Center, for Teaching American History Seminars:

- Lincoln and Reconstruction, 2017
- Supreme Court Cases, 2016
- Origins of the Cold War, 2016
- Origins of the American Idea, 2015