

## **Colin Ripmaster, MASSP Associate Executive Director**

Knowing supervision and evaluation goes hand in hand with developing the expertise of teachers to engage students in high-quality learning while simultaneously increasing the expertise of school leaders to guide and support teachers in the improvement process, MASSP has partnered with the University of Washington's Center for Educational Leadership to support the implementation of CEL's teacher evaluation system in Michigan.

My name is Colin Ripmaster, MASSP's Associate Executive Director. As a product of special education and former elementary teacher, middle-level and high school administrator, I know and appreciate the importance of educators in eliminating the achievement gap that divides our nation's children along lines of race, class, language and disability.

To fulfill our mission of eliminating achievement gaps and improve learning for children and adults, we know we must focus on the two most powerful levers within a school's locus of control: the effectiveness of teachers and the leadership capacity within the building.

Over the last decade, we have supported over 250 Michigan school districts, public school academies and ISDs in their implementation of CEL's teacher evaluation system. Two foundational beliefs guide this work.

First, quality teachers matter. If students are not learning, they're not being afforded powerful learning opportunities.

Secondly, quality instructional leadership matters. If teachers do not afford students powerful learning opportunities, this is ultimately an issue for school leaders.

As you assess your individual and collective needs and prioritize your work, please know that MASSP is here to support you on this journey. In-district or at regional events, whether it's developing content clarity and expertise around indicators within the 5D+ Rubric, Rater Reliability, Calibration Tune-Ups or dimension-specific training for staff; aligning, implementing, supporting and monitoring the evaluation system and instructional program through consultation and coaching; or increasing leadership expertise to guide and support the professional growth of teachers through clinicals, instructional rounds or executive coaching, MASSP welcomes the opportunity to further support the development of expertise for educators in order to improve the quality of teaching and leadership, which ultimately impacts the quality of education for all students.