

MassCUE

Educate, Connect, Inspire

Massachusetts **Computer Using Educators**

2019 ADMINISTRATOR AWARD



Sarah Kyriazis

Sarah Kyriazis excels at promoting a shared vision.

Sarah is the Manager of Instructional Technology and Digital Learning for the Worcester Public Schools. Sarah has lead the way for the district to fully implement G Suite for Education with meaningful professional development, provide x-number of student and teacher Chromebooks across the district, and develop a comprehensive cohort program that is developing teacher leaders to support innovative digital learning at every one of the 44 schools. At the completion of the digital migration to G Suite and Chromebooks, Sarah believes that the meaningful work has only just begun and is now mentoring innovative teacher leaders, instructional coaches, students, families, school leaders, and community members to use instructional technology to solidify a system of efficient communication and collaboration.

When ISTE, introduced their new certification process, Sarah sprang to action to secure funding and spots to attend face-to-face sessions in the region and fully participated for the purpose of setting goals that would lead the department and district forward in implementing the most meaningful technology standards possible. Sarah not only supports her staff members and innovative teachers to attend conferences, start book studies, and take

courses but she often joins in as a way of supporting collaborative learning. Most recently, Sarah has empowered department staff to lead teachers in creating a new elementary and middle school technology scope and sequence by providing them with resources but then trusting the classroom teachers to lead the project. Sarah sees her role as a catalyst for growth in the large district of 26,000 students. Sarah has created a system that Instructional Technology and Digital Learning now partners with Information Technology to regularly communicate with teachers to meet their technology and instructional needs.

2019 PATHFINDER AWARD



Brian McCann

Brian McCann, principal of Joseph Case High School in Swansea MA, has blazed a trail that has not only changed his school culture but also many schools nationwide. Brian encourages others to lead with passion and zest, showing how to make a positive contribution and creating a better world for educators and students. He was heard saying “I’m not asking permission to be awesome and I’m not apologizing for being passionate.” He has lived those words as he leads his high school in creating an atmosphere that embraces risk taking, building a positive school culture, and modeling how to use technology with kindness and joy to connect with others.

Brian has also built a movement around #positivesignthursdays. His efforts have sparked a movement all over the country. Seeking a way to connect with students and build a culture of inclusivity Brian uses a positive sign each Thursday to tell a story of his school’s community. He encourages teachers to bust out of their silos and have them informally see other educators in their school or district teaching. Brian recently removed finals from his school. He shifted the way his school system grades and assess students.

He has transformed from a tech-philistine five years ago to a Google Certified Educator, digital principal, and ubiquitous Tweeter in four short years.