

Amy Wagner, Ed.D.

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EDUCATION

National University, San Diego, CA, United States

Degree Doctor of Education, 2024

Major Instructional Leadership

Dissertation *Determinants that Lead to Teacher Retention in K-6 Schools in South Suburban Chicago, Illinois: A Qualitative Descriptive Case Study*

Governors State University, University Park, IL, United States

Degree Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction, 2012

Governors State University, University Park, IL, United States

Degree Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education, 2005

Specialization Middle School Education

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University Lecturer in Elementary Education (Unit B), 2023-present

Governors State University, University Park, IL, United States

College of Education and Human Development, Division of Education and Leadership

- Taught EDUC 3550 (Educational Psychology), both synchronous and asynchronous, EDUC 3405 (Literacy Across the Curriculum), which coordinates with 3400, 3405, and 3420, EMED 4450 (Language Arts Assessment and Differentiated Instruction in Elementary and Middle Schools), and EDUC 2990 (Literature for Children/Adolescents)
- Supervised student teachers and field experience observations in EMED 3400 (Field Experience), EMED 3420 (Creative Arts), and EDUC 4999 (Student Teaching Experience)
- Observed in the 3420 class for a semester to learn the expectations and background of Creative Arts in the Lab portion to strengthen observations of such lessons
- Coordinator in setting up for Lab One placement in Flossmoor and Crete schools, in which students from EDUC 3404, 3405, and 3420 demonstrated their knowledge of lesson planning by creating and executing lesson plans of their own in live classrooms.
- Taught RECONNECT 2025 hybrid, which strengthens struggling students to be more successful in the classroom with a host of tools and mentorship.

Adjunct Professor, Governors State University, 2022-2023

- Taught EDUC 3550 (Educational Psychology) and EDUC 8463 (Remedial Reading in the Classroom)

Adjunct Professor, Chicago State University, Chicago, IL, United States, 2022

- Taught ECSE 5418 (Screening and Assessment in Early Childhood Special Education)

Elementary Teacher, Flossmoor School District, Flossmoor, IL, United States, 2019-2023

- Self-contained teacher, grades 3 & 4
- Migrated instruction to hybrid and remote modalities
- Student Teacher Mentor
- Identified as compassionate and chosen for committees to train peers in such methods as Capturing Kids Heart's Coach.
- Reflective in teaching and able to adapt to change and adversity.
- Experienced in hybrid/remote/in-person learning environments for diverse and inclusive learning.

Elementary Teacher, Steger School District, Steger, IL, United States, 2005-2019

- Self-contained teacher, grades 1 & 2
- Student Teacher Mentor
- Highly successful in teaching grades 1-4 with positive student progress data.

SCHOLARSHIP

Peer-Reviewed Presentations

Wagner, A. (2025, February). *Securely Attached to Learning: Early Memories* [Conference presentation]. Critical Questions in Education Symposium, Savannah, GA, United States. <https://academyforeducationalstudies.org>

Wagner, A. (2024, October). *Commitment vs. culture: What teachers believe and practice regarding social and emotional learning* [Paper presentation]. Critical Questions in Education Symposium, Pittsburg, PA, United States. <https://academyforeducationalstudies.org>

Invited and Practitioner Presentations

Wagner, A. (2024, June). *Teacher retention in K-6 schools: What do TEACHERS say they need?* [Paper presentation]. Chicago Southland Educator Consortium Annual Conference, University Park, IL, United States. <https://www.govst.edu/dei-professional-development>

Wagner, A. (2024, May). *Determinants that lead to teacher retention in K-6 Schools in South Suburban Chicago, Illinois: A qualitative descriptive case study* [Poster presentation]. National University Dissertation Poster Session, San Diego, CA, United States.

Wagner, A. (2024, April). *Teacher retention in K-6 Schools: What do TEACHERS say they need?* [Research presentation]. Research Days at Governors State University, University Park, IL, United States.

Publications

Wagner, A. B., & Conrad, D. L. (2025). Stress and burnout: Voices of Illinois educators. *Illinois School Board Journal*, 93(4), 20-23. <https://www.iasb.com/about-us/publications/journal/2025-illinois-school-board-journal/july-august-2025/stress-and-burnout-voices-of-illinois-educators/>

Peer-Reviewed Publications (in preparation)

Wagner, A. (in preparation). Key factors lead to teacher retention in Chicagoland schools. Education Leadership Review of Doctoral Research.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2024 Fall Faculty Connection, Collaboration, and Celebration Award
- National Society of Leadership and Success, 2024
- Kappa Delta Pi, 2023 from National University
- “Above and Beyond” Recipient 2022
- “Thank a teacher Grant” recipient, 2016
- Phi Theta Kappa, 2004

SERVICE AND ENGAGEMENT

- Unified Education Organization Advisor (KDP/SEA)
- 2024 & 2025 Convocation Marshall
- Coordinate the Short-Term Substitute training for all initial preparation candidates
- INLD Comprehensive Exam Evaluator (Spring 2024 & 2025)
- Assistance in the creation of future Health Courses for the Elementary Education Department
- Governors State Excellence Awards Committee (Spring 2025)
- Reviewer of Proposals for Chicago Southland Educator Consortium (Spring 2025)
- Member ISP 2030 Support and Success Working Group
- Commencement Marshall (2025)
- Division Professional Development Committee (2025-2026)

TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

- Provost’s Relational Pedagogy Workshops, 2024-present
- Research and Writing Group, 2024-present

Professional References Available Upon Request