

## Presenter Biographies



**Courtney Baker, PhD**

**Dr. Courtney Baker** is an assistant professor in the Mathematics Education Leadership program. She holds a PhD in education with specializations in mathematics education leadership and in teaching and teacher education from George Mason University. Baker served as both a K-8 mathematics specialist and an elementary educator for Fairfax County Public Schools Virginia and as a mathematics content professional development facilitator for Fairfax County Public Schools. She teaches George Mason University graduate courses for prospective elementary teachers and mathematics specialists. Her research is designed to support pre- and in-service teachers and coaches to implement practices that promote meaningful classroom discussions connecting student discourse to mathematical objectives. She is specifically interested in identifying high-leverage coaching practices for productive change in teacher actions and increased student knowledge and understanding.



**Allison Ward Parsons, PhD**

**Dr. Allison Ward Parsons** is an associate professor in the Literacy program. A former Title I kindergarten teacher, she has a background in urban early education and a Ph.D. in Reading Education from the University of Virginia. She teaches courses for in-service teachers in the Literacy program, preservice teachers in the Elementary Education program, and works with doctoral students in the Literacy concentration of the PhD in Education program. Her current research examines the development of literacy specialists and coaches, teacher professional learning, and effective strategies to teach vocabulary to young children.



**Laura E. Bitto, PhD**

**Dr. Laura E. Bitto** is a mathematics teacher educator and researcher who works with pre-and-in-service mathematics teachers to refine their mathematical content, pedagogical, and leadership knowledge and skills. Laura believes that mathematics is fundamental to understanding our universe and teachers of mathematics play the critical role of unlocking that knowledge to our future generations. Laura holds a Ph.D. in Educational Policy, Planning, and Leadership with a focus on Mathematics Education from the College of William and Mary. She also has a Masters degree as a K-8 Mathematics Specialist from the College of William and Mary and a B.A. in mathematics from McDaniel College. Prior to working in higher education, Laura was a mathematics coach for K-12 teachers and an elementary teacher.



**Cynthia Brady**

**Cynthia Brady**, Math Specialist for Loudoun County Public Schools: I have a B.S. in Applied Mathematics and received my Masters in Education Leadership with a Math Specialist (K-8) concentration from George Mason University in 2012. Prior to the Math Specialist position, I worked as a school-based Math Resource Teacher, taught a middle school computer science elective, and taught K-12 mathematics in both public and private schools. I believe that all students can think and reason at high levels and deserve opportunities to engage in authentic problem solving experiences and experience the beauty of mathematics.



**Melanie Burdett**

I am **Melanie Burdett**, and I have been an educator for most of my life. I had my first tutoring job when I was 14 years old and have been teaching ever since. I went to college and got my master's degree to teach English as a Second Language. I took a break from teaching to have children and then got my endorsement to be a school librarian. I love students and teaching!



**Cindy Cooper**

**Cindy Cooper** is passionate about making math make sense for all students. She strives to help each student use their unique perspective to make connections and see themselves as capable mathematicians who can make sense of the world around them. She has served in a coaching role in Fairfax and Prince William counties at the Elementary and the Middle School level. She enjoys engaging in math tasks with teachers and loves figuring out novel solutions to problems. In addition, Cindy has partnered with the GMU Complete Center on several projects and facilitated the Region IV Mathematics Principals Partnering Institute with colleagues who continue to push and challenge one another's thinking. When not doing math with students and teachers, Cindy can be found spending time with her husband and two sons. As a family, they enjoy traveling to explore new cities and cultures, trying new foods, and spending time in nature.



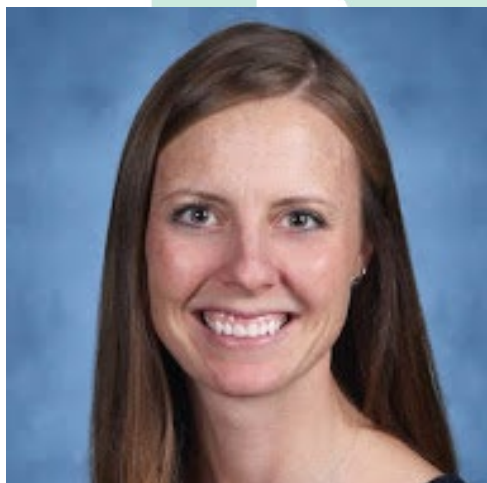
**Deb Crawford, PhD**

**Dr. Deb Crawford** currently serves as the Supervisor of Mathematics in Frederick County and as an adjunct professor at GMU. She has enjoyed sharing and learning with teachers and students as a teacher, department chair, math coach, technology specialist, curriculum supervisor, Texas Instruments T3 Instructor, adjunct professor, speaker, and author. Her current focal areas include performance task design, integrating computational thinking, Desmos, and coaching teachers through video on the Mathematical Teaching Practices. Most importantly, she enjoys being the mother of six children!



**Jennifer Drake Patrick, PhD**

**Dr. Jennifer Drake Patrick** is an Assistant Professor of Education in the College of Education and Human Development at George Mason University. She teaches secondary content literacy courses for prospective teachers and graduate level courses preparing teachers to serve as Reading Coaches and Specialists. Her research interests include teachers' beliefs, literacy coaching, teacher education, and professional development. Jennifer received her Ph.D. at The University of Florida in Curriculum and Instruction with a concentration in Reading after teaching for several years in middle and high schools in Ohio, Florida, and Maryland.



**Alyson Eaglen**

**Alyson Eaglen** is an Instructional Facilitator of Math for Loudoun County Public Schools. She is a recent graduate of George Mason University holding a Masters in Education Leadership with a Math Specialist (K-8) concentration. Previously she was an upper elementary classroom teacher, a gifted resource teacher, and a STEM resource teacher in both Loudoun County and Fairfax County Public Schools. She is passionate about teaching mathematics and wants all students to have meaningful experiences that help them understand the "why" behind what they are learning.



**Aimee Ellington, PhD**

**Dr. Aimee Ellington** is Professor and Associate Chair in the Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics at Virginia Commonwealth University. Her research interests include studying the impact of Mathematics Specialists in elementary and middle school classrooms, analyzing the role technology plays in the mathematics classroom, and studying reform-based efforts in college-level general education mathematics courses.



**Damien Eftere**

This is **Damien Eftere's** 17th year in FCPS. He has been a classroom teacher for 5th and 6th grade, a school-based math resource teacher, a Title I math resource teacher, and a Title I math resource teacher at Central Office. He has developed and co-facilitated a variety of courses and specials on math instructional practices, sense making routines, and discourse.



**Jennifer Hathaway, PhD**

**Dr. Jennifer I. Hathaway** is an Assistant Professor of Education in the College of Education and Human Development at George Mason University. She also serves as the Academic Program Coordinator for Literacy. She teaches elementary reading methods courses for prospective teachers and graduate level courses preparing teachers to serve as Reading Specialists. Her research interests include teachers' beliefs, literacy coaching, teacher education, and professional development. Jennifer received her Ph.D. at Vanderbilt University in Teaching and Learning with a concentration in Language, Literacy, and Culture after teaching for several years in elementary schools in North Carolina. In addition to her research and teaching, she has served as a literacy consultant for an urban school in Charlotte, North Carolina.



**Michael King**

**Mike King** is in his eighth year as an elementary school Assistant Principal in Fairfax County. Prior to assuming this role, Mike taught middle school mathematics for thirteen years while pursuing a Master's Degree in Education (Administration & Supervision) at the University of Virginia, and is currently a doctoral candidate in Educational Leadership at the University of Virginia. Mike is passionate about supporting both teachers and students in gaining a stronger understanding of, and appreciation for, mathematics instruction and learning.



**Lauren Realon**

**Lauren LaMonda Realon** grew up in Northern Virginia, and graduated from Fairfax County Public Schools. Lauren graduated from SUNY Oneonta in 2010, where she studied elementary education, K-6. Following her graduation, Lauren moved back to the Northern Virginia area, and began teaching 4th grade at Fairfax County Public Schools. Lauren taught 4th and 5th grade for six years in a Title 1 school. She received her Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from George Mason University, with a concentration in Literacy Leadership for Diverse Schools, K-12. Lauren has been a Literacy Coach for three years at the Title 1 School where she began her teaching career. She primarily coaches teachers, co-teaches in a classroom for reading and writing, and teaches a graduate level course to teachers at her school in grades 3-6. She currently lives in Springfield with her new husband.



**Jamey Lovin**

**Jamey Lovin** Instructor – Department of Mathematics & Applied Mathematics at Virginia Commonwealth University (email: [lovinjl@vcu.edu](mailto:lovinjl@vcu.edu)). Jamey started her career as an aeronautics analyst after receiving her M.A.S. from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. She worked on the Fleet Introduction Team for the Navy's F/A-18 program. After taking a year off to start a family, she earned her M.Ed. in Math Education from the University of Virginia and began her role as a Math Coach in several Tidewater area cities. During summer breaks she worked with VCU, UVA, and NSU teaching Math Specialist courses. She currently serves as the President Elect and Webmaster of the Virginia Council of Mathematics Specialists and Past-President of the Virginia Council of Teachers of Mathematics. She is dedicated to helping educators inspire students' passion for mathematics.



**Sarah Mahan**

Hello, My name is **Sarah Mahan**. I am one of the librarians at Thomas Edison High School in Alexandria. I came to Edison this year as a new librarian. Previously, I spent the last six years as the library assistant at Woodson High School in Fairfax. I received my Masters of Library Information Science for University of North Carolina Greensboro. My belief is that the library is a space for all students to be heard, valued, and accepted.



**Devin Mazuroski**

**Devin Mazuroski** grew up in Richmond and graduated from Chesterfield County Public Schools. She graduated in 2011 from James Madison University where she studied early childhood education. She received her Master of Science Degree in Literacy from Longwood University in 2015. Devin taught 3rd grade for four years and has been a literacy coach now for four years in a Title One school in Fairfax County. She primarily coaches teachers, co-teaches in a classroom for reading and writing, and teaches a graduate level course to teachers at her school in grades K-2. She lives in Stafford with her husband and 10 month-old daughter.



**Erica Meadows, Angela Rabette, Marnie Garnier, Tu Phillips, & Ilene Teixeira**

**Erica Meadows** and **Angela Rabette** (Education Specialists); **Marnie Garnier, Tu Phillips,** and **Ilene Teixeira** (Instructional Support Teachers) provide division-wide and school-specific professional learning opportunities for teachers in and across 142 Elementary schools in Fairfax County. Additionally, they have presented their work and research at national conferences such as National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC), WIDA, Virginia ESL Supervisors Association (VESA), Washington, D.C. Area Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (WATESOL) and Greater Washington Reading Council (GWRC).



**Kimberly Morrow-Leong, PhD**

**Dr. Kimberly Morrow-Leong** is an adjunct instructor for the MEL program at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia, a professional consultant for Math Solutions, speaker, and a curriculum and book author. She is a former grade 5 – 9 classroom teacher, K – 8 mathematics coach, researcher, and the Coordinator of Elementary Professional Development at the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. She recently completed an elected term as the 2018 Program Chair for NCSM-Mathematics Education Leadership and took an active role in the Equity and Social Justice Committee. Kim's degrees include a PhD and MEd in Mathematics Education Leadership, a BA in French language, and an MA in linguistics (with an emphasis on teaching English to speakers of other languages). Dr. Morrow-Leong is the 2009 recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) from Virginia. She regularly presents at local, state, and national conferences.



**Joanna Newton, PhD**

**Dr. Joanna Newton** has been a classroom teacher, literacy coach, and reading intervention specialist with Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) in Fairfax County, VA for over fifteen years. Currently, she is an Elementary Language Arts Resource Teacher and Literacy Coach with FCPS's Office of School Support. She earned her doctorate in Literacy from George Mason University in 2018. Joanna has co-authored articles about vocabulary instruction and literacy coaching in *The Reading Teacher*, *Educational Leadership* and *Making Literacy Connections*. Her most recent publication is as a contributing author to the second edition of *Building Vocabulary with Greek and Latin Roots* (Rasinski, Padak, Newton & Newton, 2020). Over the last decade, Joanna has led professional development workshops on vocabulary, word study and literacy development for teachers in the DC Metro area and has had the privilege of working alongside teachers in classrooms to develop students' word knowledge.



**Ian Shenk**

**Ian Shenk** serves as the K-12 Mathematics Curriculum Specialist for Hanover County Public Schools. Prior to this role, he served teachers and students as a classroom teacher, high school mathematics coach, and building-level school administrator. He is a past president of the Virginia Council of Teachers of Mathematics and the current president of the Virginia Council for Mathematics Supervision.



**Megan Shifflett**

**Megan Shifflett** has worked in Fairfax County Public Schools for the last eleven years, serving as a second grade teacher, sixth grade teacher, reading interventionist, and instructional coach. She is currently supporting Fort Belvoir Primary as an Instructional Coach with a focus on literacy instruction. She received her Reading Specialist Certification and Master's Degree in Literacy Leadership with Diverse Learners from George Mason University.



**Ray Singletary**

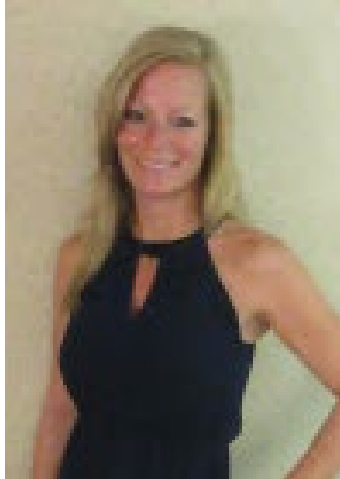
**Ray Singletary** is currently the PK-12 Mathematics Specialist for Manassas City Public Schools. Ray's mission is to create the conditions for active learning in Mathematics classrooms, by empower students as learners through Mathematics. During his 18 year career, Ray oversaw strategic planning, which involved building more purposeful collaboration and planning with Secondary Mathematics teachers. His actions resulted in 24% and 46% increase in student achievement on state assessments. Before this role, Ray served as a high school Principal, where he developed in leading teachers and coaches in creating more strategic plans for student success. Ray holds a Master's degree in Administration and Supervision and continues to work towards his Mathematics Specialist degree. Ray is thankful for his wife (Michele), daughter (Devon), 2 grandchildren (Lily and Landon), and dog (Chanel) for keeping him grounded and providing continuous support every day.



**Kimberly Spohn**

**Kimberly Spohn's** educational passion lies in teaching math effectively to English learners. Through her undergraduate studies at Penn State, Kim was able to travel around the globe to teach. Through an intensive TESOL program, including a homestay, she taught native Ecuadorian students in an English summer program. She also traveled to Australia where she had her first experience co-teaching. She completed her Masters in Math Education Leadership at George Mason, where she researched the changes necessary at the collegiate and professional level to help teachers incorporate their EL students into the general math curriculum. Kimberly has been a classroom and EL teacher for grades K-4 in Loudoun and Arlington. She is currently a 1st grade teacher in Arlington. She is a beginning yoga student who enjoys cooking and rooting for the Steelers.





**Barbara Stamberg**

**Barbara Stamberg** is in her second year as the Instructional Coach at her school. She completed the George Mason Math Specialist (K-8) program in December 2019. She has also taught math and science for 19 years in grades 5-8 as well as served as lead teacher in both content areas. She was the 2017 recipient of the AMTE (Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators) Scholarship for Elementary Mathematics Specialists. For fun, she and her husband compete in triathlons/duathlons, go to antique car shows, and enjoy spending time with their mini dachshund Daisy.

