

Heather L. Walter, Ed.D

Assistant Professor of Education

George Mason University

Email: hwalter2@gmu.edu

e

EDUCATION

- 2020 Ed.D., The George Washington University
Washington D.C, Graduation, January 2020
Dissertation: Exploring Early Childhood Teachers' Wellbeing through a
Multidimensional Framework: A Mixed Methods Study
- 2014 Ed.S., The George Washington University, Washington, D.C
Educational Specialist, Leadership for Excellence in Early Achievement
and Development (LEEAD)
- 2010 M.A., Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY
Elementary Education and Teaching Students with Dis/Abilities
- 2008 B.A., University at Buffalo, The State University of New York,
Amherst, N.Y.
Jewish Education and Sociology; Interdisciplinary Major

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

- 2021-Present Assistant Professor of Early Childhood Education
George Mason University, Fairfax, VA
- 2018- 2021 Visiting Instructor/ Clinical Field Placement Liaison and
Interim Program Director, Early Childhood Special Education
the George Washington University, Washington, DC
- 2014 – Present Inclusion Coordinator
Temple Beth Ami Religious School, Rockville, M.D
- 2015 - 2018 Graduate Research Assistant/ Teaching Assistant/ University Supervisor
the George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
- 2015 – 2018 Adjunct Faculty/ University Supervisor
University of Maryland Baltimore County, Catonsville, M.D
- 2014 – 2018 Pre-K CLASS Observer, Contracted
AppleTree Institute for Education Innovation, Washington, D.C
- 2015 University Supervisor
The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.
- 2014 Early Childhood Special Education Coordinator, Intern
Fairfax County Public Schools, Fairfax, V.A
Walter1

2013	Strong Start Early Intervention Services, Intern The District of Columbia Public Schools, Washington, D.C
2013	Mental Health Specialist, Intern Strong Start Early Intervention Services, Washington, D.C
2012-2013	Kindergarten Teacher The River School, Washington, D.C
2010-2012	Early Childhood Intervention Teacher Anne Arundel County Public Schools, Annapolis, M.D
2009-2010	First Grade Collaborative Team Teacher (CTT) East Village Community School, New York, N.Y
2009	Head Special Education Teacher Camp Kulam, The Jewish Community Center of Manhattan, New York, N.Y
2009	Assistant Teacher Hollingworth Science Camp, Teachers College, New York, N.Y
2008	Assistant Director Kiddie Camp, The Jewish Community Center of Greater Buffalo, Amherst, N.Y
2007-2008	Assistant Teacher Early Childhood Research Center, University at Buffalo, Amherst, N.Y
2007-2008	Teacher Jewish Leadership Initiative, Amherst N.Y
2006	Program Director Camp Sisol, The Jewish Community Center of Rochester, Rochester, N.Y

COURSES TAUGHT

ECED 405/505: Introduction to Special Education
 ECED 789: Internship in Early Childhood Education
 ECED 503: Inclusive Curriculum for Young Learners: Planning Instruction and Guidance
 SPED 6222: Legal Issues and Public Policy for Individuals with Disabilities
 SPED 6261: Practicum: Methods and Materials for Young Children with Disabilities
 SPED 6266: The Development of Language and Literacy
 SPED 6268: Development of Children and Youth with Disabilities
 SPED 6269: Etiology, Symptomatology, and Approaches to Intervention with Children with Disabilities

SPED 6260: Developmental Assessment in Special Education
SPED 6262: Formal Assessment of Young Children with Disabilities
SPED 6993: Internship: Teaching Young Children with Disabilities
EDUC 388: Inclusion and Instruction
EDUC 678: Instructional Strategies to Teach Diverse Needs
EDUC 335: Observation and Development of Young Children

SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

REFEREED ARTICLES

- Fox, H., Tuckwiller, E.D., Kutscher, E. L., & **Walter, H.L.** (2020). "What makes teachers well?" A mixed methods study of special education teacher well-being. *Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies in Education*. 9(2) 234-258.
<https://doi.org/10.32674/jise.v9i2.2170>
- Walter H, L.** (2020). Exploring early childhood special education teachers' wellbeing through a multidimensional lens: A mixed methods study. Unpublished doctoral dissertation. The George Washington University.
<https://www.proquest.com/openview/d23dc803ab0d7bcb280b8e05f21f7fcb/1?pq-origsite=gscholar&cbl=18750&diss=y>
- Stites, M.L. & **Walter, H.L.** & Krikorian, J. (2020). These aren't the kids I signed up for: the lived experience of general education early childhood preservice teachers in classrooms for children with special needs. *Journal for Early Childhood Teacher Education*.
doi.org/10.1080/10901027.2020.1718806
- Stites, M.L. & **Walter, H.L.** (2019). Adding to the Equation. National Association of Elementary Principals. <https://www.naesp.org/resource/adding-to-the-equation/>
- Yang, S., Geller, A., Baciou, A., Alexis, N... **Walter, H. L.** (2018). *Fifth Annual DC Public Health Case Challenge*. Lead and Adverse Childhood Experiences: Neurological and Behavioral Consequences for Youth in the District of Columbia. Discussion Paper, Institute of Medicine. <https://nam.edu/fifth-annual-dc-public-health-case-challenge/>

NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

- Fox, H. B., Tuckwiller, E. D., Kutscher, E. L., & **Walter, H.** (2019). Introduction to positive psychology for teachers: A resource guide. Washington, DC: The George Washington University.
- Walter, H.L.**, Goozh, J. (2018, February 28) Jewish Disability Awareness Month
Temple Beth Ami Chadashot, 45, 12.
- Burchick, E., Cimino, L., Dwyer, E., Foster, S., Jackson, N... **Walter, H.L.** (2011)

Curriculum differentiation guide for opening a world of learning (OWL). Early Childhood Special Education Department, Anne Arundel County.

Walter, H.L. (2008). Institute of Jewish Thought and Heritage at the University at Buffalo. *Buffalo Jewish Review*.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PRESS

Walter, H. L., & Nagarajan. (*in press*). Teacher well-being: Reconceptualizing professional development in early childhood special education. *Young Exceptional Children*.

Walter, H.L., Fox, H, (*in press*). Understanding teacher well-being during COVID-19 pandemic overtime: A qualitative longitudinal study. *Journal of organizational psychology*.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

Walter, H.L., Fox, H., Kutscher, E., & Tuckwiller, E.D. (2020). *The dual factor model of special education teacher well-being [Manuscript submitted for publication]*. Department of Education and Human Development, The George Washington University

Fox, H., **Walter, H.L.,** & Kutscher, E. *More than strengths within: Cultivating teacher resilience during COVID-19 [manuscript in preparation]*. Department of Education and Human Development, The George Washington University

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPERATION

Fox, H., & **Walter, H.L.** *Teacher Well-being: A Review of the Literature. [manuscript in preparation]*. Department of Education and Human Development, The George Washington University.

Fox, H., Kutscher, E., **Walter, H.,** L., & Tuckwiller, E.D. (2020). *Tale of Caution [manuscript submitted for publication]*. Department of Education and Human Development, The George Washington University

Walter, H.L, Tuckwiller, E.D., Frey, J., & Howard. L. *Early childhood special education teacher' wellbeing: A mixed methods study. [manuscript in preparation]*. Department of Education and Human Development, The George Washington University.

Fox, H., Kutscher, E., **Walter, H.L,** & Tuckwiller, E.D. *Towards a critical model of school-based wellbeing [manuscript in preparation]*. Department of Education and Human Development, The George Washington University

Walter, H.L., Pisha, L.E., & Stites, M.L. *Supporting young children with ASD in religious schools [manuscript in preparation]*. Department of Education and Human Development, The George Washington University

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

REFERRED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Walter, H.L., Tuckwiller, E.D., Frey., J., Kustcher, E., & Fox., H (2021). *Profiles of Early Childhood Special Educators' Well-being and Implications for Creating Positive Early Learning Environments*. Accepted presentation for the Society for Research in Child Development. Virtual.

Walter, H. L. (2021). *Exploring early childhood teacher well-being through a multidimensional framework*. Accepted presentation for MMR SIG Award Winners for the American Research Association. Virtual.

Walter, H. L., Howard, L., Tuckwiller, E.D., Kutscher, E., Fox, H (2021). *Using an explanatory sequential design to understand early childhood special education teacher well-being*. Accepted presentation for the American Research Association. Virtual.

Fox, H., **Walter, H. L.,** Tuckwiller, E. D., (2021). *Unpacking teacher well-being and resilience during COVID-19*. Accepted presentation for the American Research Association. Virtual.

Kustcher, E., Fox, H., **Walter, H.L.,** Tuckwiller, E. D. (2021). *Tale of a Caution: Navigating teacher resistance in a research partnership*. Accepted presentation for the American Research Association. Virtual.

Fox, H., **Walter, H. L.,** Tuckwiller, E. D., (2021). *Unpacking teacher well-being and resilience during COVID-19*. Accepted presentation for the American Research Association. Virtual.

Fox, H., Tuckwiller, E.D, **Walter, H.L** & Kutscher, E (2020). *School-based Approaches to Support Special Education Teacher Wellbeing*. Accepted presentation for the Council for Exceptional Children's Annual Conference. Virtual.

Fox, H., Tuckwiller, E.D., Nagarajan, S., Walter, H., & Sadlon, R. (2020). *Facilitating Teacher Well-being Through School-wide Professional Development*. Accepted presentation. Annual Conference on Advancing School Mental Health. National Center for School Mental Health. Virtual.

Walter, H.L., Fox, H.B. (2020). *Workforce Wellbeing, Research Methods, and Mental Health*. Accepted poster presentation for the Administration for Children and Families' National Research Conference on Early Childhood. Virtual.

- Fox, H., **Walter, H.L**, Kutscher, E & Tuckwiller, E.D (2020). *Caring for the Caregivers: The Promise and Practice of Promoting Teacher Well-Being*. Presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California/ Virtual
- Fox, H., **Walter, H.L**, Kutscher, E & Tuckwiller, E.D (2020). *Facilitators and Barriers to Special Education Teacher Well-Being*. Presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California/ Virtual.
- Walter, H.L.**, Nagarajan, S & Kutscher, E. (2019). *Early Childhood Education Teacher Well-Being*. DC EC Summit. Washington, DC.
- Fox, H., **Walter, H.L**, Kutscher, E & Tuckwiller, E.D (2019). *Designing for Success: Strengths Based Design Intervention Research in University/ School Partnerships*. Presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada.
- Tuckwiller, E. D., Rice, E. H., & **Walter, H. L.** (2019, January). *Special education teachers' well-being, stress, and the intent to stay in the field: A mixed methods exploration*. Multi-presentation session at the Council for Exceptional Children 2019 Annual Conference, Indianapolis, IN.
- Fox, H., & **Walter, H. L.** (2019). *Cultivating Special Education Teacher Well-Being: A Pilot Study*. Poster presentation for the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada.
- Hunter, L., & **Walter, H.L** (2018). Using a Mixed Methods Research Design to Examine Special Education Teacher and Student Wellbeing through a Dual-Factor Model of Mental Health. Presented at the U.C Berkeley Graduate School of Education Research Day Conference, Oakland, C.A
- Walter, H.**, Pisha, L. E, & Stites, M. (2017). *It Takes a Village: Supporting Young Children with ASD in Religious Schools*. Presented at the 33rd Annual Division of Early Childhood Research for Early Childhood National Conference. Portland, OR
- Gillispie, C., **Walter, H.** & Mussad-Kelly, A. (2017). *How Can Mind-Brain Science Help Support Children and Families?* Presented at the 33rd Annual Division of Early Childhood Research for Early Childhood National Conference. Portland, OR
- Walter, H.** (2016). *Novel Instructional Approaches to Develop Preservice Teachers' Research for Early Childhood Educators*. Round Table Chair, American Educational Research Association. Washington, DC.
- Gillispie, C., **Walter, H.** & Mussad-Kelly, A. (2015). *Translating Mind-Brain-Education*

Research for Early Childhood Educators. Presented at the George Washington University, Research Days. Washington, DC.

Gilispie, C., **Walter, H.** & Mussad-Kelly, A. (2015). *Translating Mind-Brain-Education Research for Early Childhood Educators*. Presented at the Division for Early Childhood's 31st Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, Atlanta, GA

Stites, M. & **Walter, H.** (2016). *Universal Design for Learning in Middle School Classrooms*: University of Maryland Baltimore County with Baltimore County Public Schools, Catonsville, MD

Stites, M. & **Walter, H.** (2015). *Universal Design for Learning in Middle School Classrooms*. University of Maryland Baltimore County with Baltimore County Public Schools, Catonsville, MD

Walter, H. & Jones, A. (2015). *Teaching Self-Regulation Skills Through Group Games*. Joes Champs: Fight for Children. Washington, DC

Walter, H. & Jones, A. (2015). *Teaching Self-Regulation Skills Through Group Games*. Friendship Public Charter Schools, Washington, DC

Walter, H. (2015). *Teaching all Children: Inclusion in Religious School Settings*. Temple Beth Ami Religious School Professional Development. Rockville, MD

Walter, H. (2015). *Stepping into Stories: Connecting Literacy to Drama in the Early Childhood Classroom*. Literacy Leaders Conference, Shepherd University.

Gilispie, C., **Walter, H.**, Mussad-Kelly, A. (2015). *Translating Mind-Brain-Education Research for Early Childhood Educators*. The George Washington University Educational Symposium for Research and Innovation. Washington, DC.

Walter, H., Berry, J., Chaplin, A., & Jones, A. (2015). *Enhancing resiliency through play: A Case Study Perspective*. Presented at the Maryland Association for the Education of Young Children, Crofton, MD.

Berry, J., Chaplin, A., Jones, A & **Walter, H.** (2015). *Enhancing resiliency through play: A Case Study Perspective*. Presented at the Virginia Association of Young Children, Richmond, VA

Spencer, K. H.& **Walter, H** (2014). *Leading the Way for Resilient Children: Connecting research and practice*. Presented at the Virginia Association of Young Children, Roanoke, VA

Walter, H. (2012). *Creative Compliance: Thematic Curriculum in the Classroom*. Teachers College 2nd Annual Teach-In. Teachers College, New York, New York.

Walter, H. (2010). *Differentiated Curriculum. Four Seasons Elementary School Professional Development Series*

Walter, H. (2010). *Practical Guide for Art in Any Classroom*. Presenter at Teachers College first annual teach-in. Teachers College, New York. New York

INVITED GUEST SPEAKER

Walter, H. (2018). Mayberg Center for Jewish Education and Leadership. *Inclusive Jewish Education*. The George Washington University

Walter, H. (2013). Guest Lecturer. *Teaching Methods to Maximize Student Learning and Motivation*. Guest Lecturer, Catholic University of America, master level teacher preparation course.

Walter, H. (2008). Guest speaker at President B Simpson's house on the newly established Jewish Studies Program at the University at Buffalo.

GRANT EXPERIENCE

FUNDED APPLICATIONS

Innovation Grant 2021
George Mason, CEHD
Project Access

SEED Grant 2021
George Mason, CEHD
Family-Centered Coaching to Engage Families from Diverse Racial, Cultural, Linguistic, and Socioeconomic Backgrounds Who Have a Child with a Disability

UNFUNDED APPLICATIONS

Caplan Foundation 2020
Project PARENT
Principal Investigator: Heather Walter

AERA Division K Small Grant Proposal 2020

Re-envisioning Teaching and Teacher Education in the Shadow of the COVID-19 Pandemic (RTTE).
Principal Investigator: Heather Walter

84.324A, Goal 2, Teacher/PD Topic 2019 –2023
Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research
Project WHOLE: Well-being and Health for Optimal Learning Environments, A Teacher Well-being Program (\$1,352,083);
Principal Investigator: Tuckwiller

GRANT EVALUATIONS

Einstein, S., Kutcher, E., Lunde, J., & Walter, H. (2017). *Promoting Equity in Education (PEECE) Grant Evaluation*. The George Washington University, Washington, DC.

Walter, H.L. (2019). Pre-K Expansion Evaluation. Prince Georges County, MD.

CONSULTING WORK

FHI 360, Early Childhood Department
START 360- Inclusive Kindergarten Transitions

DOCTORAL ADVISING

Dissertation Committee Member

Christina Brown, The George Washington University, 2020-present

Early Childhood Special Education Leadership

Proposal in development/ Proposal Defense: October 2020/ Dissertation Defense September 2021.

TEACHER PREPERATION ACCREDIDATION

Training and skill in supporting and writing reports for teacher preparation accreditation for CAEP, with NAEYC, CEC, and DEC standard alignment for the Early Childhood Special Education Program.

HONORS RECEIVED

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| February 2021 | <i>AERA Mixed Methods Research SIG Outstanding Dissertation Award 2nd Runner Up</i> . American Educational Research Association, Mixed Methods Research SIG |
| October 2017 | <i>Best Interdisciplinary Approach</i> (GW Student, in partnership with Milken Institute School of Public Health), D. C. Public Health Case Challenge, Washington, D.C. Awarded by Institute of Medicine in partnership with Georgetown University. |
| August 2016 | Most Influential in Inspiring Future Career Paths, Award of the UMBC Career Services. University of Maryland Baltimore County |
| 2015 | Fellowship grant for doctoral study at the Graduate School of Education & Human Development, The George Washington University, full-time tuition and stipend for 3 years of study |

2012	Funded Scholar through the LEEAD program at the Graduate School of Education & Human Development, The George Washington University, Funded through the Department of Education
2012	Arthur Zankel Fellowship Award for study at Teachers College, Columbia University
2008	National Society for Collegiate Scholars
2005	Tau Sigma, Transfer Honor Society
2005	Student Fellow, Jewish National Fund
2004	Youth Hall of Fame Award; Town of Henrietta

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES

2020 - Present	Vice Chair & Board Member, Board of Trustees, <i>Green Acres School</i>
2016 - 2018	Graduate Manuscript Reviewer, <i>Young Exceptional Children (YEC)</i>
2015 -2018	Committee Member, <i>Inclusion Committee, Temple Beth Ami</i>
2015 - 2016	Secretary, <i>Montgomery Council for Exceptional Children</i>
2014 - 2015	Chapter Representative to the State, <i>Montgomery County National Association for the Education of Young Children</i>
2013 - 2015	Committee Member, <i>Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington Book Festival</i>
2007 - 2008	Search Committee Member, <i>The Institute for Jewish Thought and Culture, University at Buffalo, The State University of New York</i>
2007 - 2008	President, <i>Student Executive Board, Hillel of Buffalo</i>

Special Skills

SPSS, Microsoft Office, School Administrator I Licensure, CLASS, Program Evaluation