

## From the Editors

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the latest edition of the NCMLE Journal! As we embark on a new year, we are thrilled to present a collection of insightful articles and research that continue to advance our understanding and practice of middle-level education.

In this issue, we explore a range of timely and impactful topics. From innovative teaching strategies that engage young adolescents to the latest findings in self-efficacy and pre-service teachers. Our contributors have provided valuable perspectives that will inspire and inform your work.

One of the highlights of this edition is our feature on integrating Generative AI technology in the classroom as a way to individualize instruction. As digital tools become increasingly prevalent in education, it is essential to understand how they can be effectively utilized to enhance learning outcomes. Our authors share practical applications and success stories demonstrating technology's transformative potential in middle-level education.

Additionally, we are proud to include a series of columns celebrating the leadership of North Carolina's teachers and other educational leaders. Ensuring that all students have access to high-quality education is a fundamental goal, and our contributors offer thoughtful analyses and strategies to address the needs of our student populations.

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our authors, reviewers, and editorial team for their dedication and hard work. Their contributions are what make this journal a valuable resource for educators, researchers, and policymakers alike. We would also like to formally recognize Dr. Laurie Dymes for her outstanding editorial service to the NCMLE Journal, establishing the strong foundation upon which this edition is built.

As we look ahead, please consider submitting your own work to the NCMLE Journal. We are always seeking fresh perspectives and innovative research that can contribute to the field of middle-level education. Whether you have a case study, practitioner-focused research article, or practical insights to share, we welcome your submissions. Together, we can continue to build a vibrant and dynamic community of educators dedicated to the success of young adolescents.

As always, we welcome your feedback and encourage you to share your thoughts and experiences with us. Your insights are invaluable as we strive to improve and serve the middle-level community.

Thank you for your continued support of the NCMLE Journal. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of young adolescents.

Warm regards,



Joey Lord and Daniel Maxwell