

Stacia L. McFadden

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QUALIFICATIONS

- Visionary educational leader with over 20 years of expertise in technology integration, leadership development, and program innovation, known for driving transformative change and fostering inclusive school cultures.
- Proven success in launching new programs, enhancing professional development, and managing cross-functional teams, leading to improved educational outcomes and operational efficiency.
- Skilled at building a positive and cohesive school culture through effective communication, collaborative leadership, and strategic feedback, enabling the development of high-performing teams.
- Advocate for student-centered learning environments that encourage curiosity, connection, and courageous expression, cultivating safe and supportive spaces for all students.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Rowland Hall, Salt Lake City, UT

Head of Upper School (2025–Present)

- Lead the Upper School division of 300+ students and 46 faculty/staff, ensuring alignment with Rowland Hall's mission, values, and strategic goals.
- Strengthen the leadership team by cultivating shared decision-making, data-informed practices, and consistent communication across departments.
- Oversee academic, operational, and cultural initiatives to enhance student engagement, faculty growth, and overall school climate.
- Advance institutional priorities around belonging and well-being through restorative leadership, community partnerships, and inclusive programming.
- Partner with the Assistant Head of Upper School, Academic Dean, Learning Specialists, and Social Emotional Counselor to enhance instructional quality, improve student outcomes, and sustain a culture of continuous improvement.
- Collaborate with the Head of School and senior leadership to plan the transition to the new Richard R. Steiner Campus, ensuring academic continuity and community cohesion.

Upper School Assistant Principal (2023–2025)

- Spearheaded the implementation of strategic priorities, resulting in the successful launch of new programs that expanded academic and extracurricular opportunities for students.
- Fostered cross-functional collaboration with administrators and faculty to integrate initiatives across the upper and middle schools, improving student support systems and shared learning environments.
- Led a team focused on student well-being, supporting over 300 students through proactive engagement with the Student Success Team, and addressing academic, social, and emotional needs.
- Championed restorative practices within the disciplinary system, transforming the approach to student conduct to promote accountability, empathy, and personal growth.
- Optimized the course selection process by streamlining communication between students, parents, and faculty, leading to a more efficient scheduling system and increased student satisfaction.

National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), Washington, DC

School Leadership Institute, Faculty (2019–Present)

- Facilitated leadership workshops for educational leaders nationwide, empowering them with practical strategies and tools to drive change within their schools, impacting the development of leadership pipelines across multiple institutions.
- Guided participants in applying leadership frameworks to real-world scenarios, leading to actionable plans that strengthened school leadership teams and fostered a culture of continuous improvement.

Leadership + Design, Los Gatos, CA

Fellow in Residence, Leadership Lab Lead Facilitator (2022–2023)

- Developed and facilitated innovative leadership curricula that equipped school leaders with creative problem-solving and strategic planning skills, leading to the successful implementation of projects that addressed key educational challenges.
- Mentored participants in personal growth and leadership development, fostering a mindset of adaptability and resilience that prepared them to lead effectively in dynamic educational environments.

The Lovett School, Atlanta, GA

Multiple Positions (2011–2023)

Chief Information Officer (2020–2023)

- Led technology strategy and operations, managing a \$900,000 budget and directing a team of 18 to ensure seamless integration of technology across the school, which enhanced both learning and administrative efficiency.
- Implemented DEI initiatives that deepened faculty understanding of belonging and inclusion, leading to a more supportive and culturally responsive school environment.
- Fostered community partnerships that resulted in new educational initiatives and enriched student experiences, driving engagement and collaboration beyond the classroom.
- Mentored and coached faculty and students through various leadership roles, empowering them to take ownership of projects and initiatives, which strengthened school culture and leadership development.

Director of Academic Technology (2011–2020)

- Pioneered technology integration that transformed teaching and learning practices, equipping over 100 faculty members with the skills to incorporate digital tools into their classrooms effectively.
- Led a departmental expansion that resulted in increased capacity to support faculty and students, and cultivated a positive work environment that improved staff retention and morale.
- Organized major community events, including a NASA International Space Station In-flight Downlink and educational summits, attracting hundreds of attendees and positioning the school as a leader in educational innovation.
- Designed and delivered over 50 professional development sessions, enhancing educators' digital literacy and instructional practices, and leading to improved student engagement and academic performance.

St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School, Washington, DC

Technology Director & Coordinator (2005–2011)

- Increased faculty and student proficiency in technology integration through targeted training programs, which led to a significant boost in digital literacy and collaborative learning across grade levels.
- Oversaw the summer program operations, managing a \$400,000 budget and a team of staff to deliver a successful, engaging program for over 200 participants annually, resulting in high enrollment rates and positive community feedback.

PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

- “Fireside Chat: Women Navigating Leadership in Tech,” Association of Technology Leaders in Independent Schools Annual Conference, 2025
- “Beyond the Tech Desk: Leadership Advocacy for EdTech Professionals,” Association of Technology Leaders in Independent Schools Annual Conference, 2025
- “Nah, For Real: A Talk Show Inspired Conversation For BIPOC Women,” NAIS People of Color Conference, 2024
- “From Tech Leader to School Admin,” Talking Technology with ATLIS Podcast, 2024
- “Utilize Design Thinking to Attack Challenging Leadership Dilemmas,” NAIS Annual Conference, 2024
- “Career Intentionality: Creating a Purposeful Path to Your Career Goals,” Association of Technology Leaders in Independent Schools Annual Conference, 2022
- “Yes, You Can Survive a Cyber Incident!” Association of Technology Leaders in Independent Schools Cybersecurity Workshops, 2021-2022
- “The Real Truth About Data Security,” Association of Technology Leaders in Independent Schools Annual Conference, 2021
- “From Folding Chair to Permanent Seat at the Table,” Article for Access Points: magazine of the Association of Technology Leaders in Independent Schools, Spring 2021, Author
- Action Field Research: “An exploration of teacher perceptions of autonomy, collaboration, teacher efficacy and job satisfaction in independent schools,” 2021
- “Ed Tech Quick Hits,” MISBO Annual Conference, 2020
- “Disruptive Development: Coaching as a Tool for Culture Change,” NAIS Annual Conference, 2020
- “The Digital Child: What Teachers & Parents Need to Know About Tech Use,” Gurian Winter Institute, 2020, Content Creator and Presenter
- “Leadership Hackathon,” Association of Technology Leaders in Independent Schools, 2019, Content Creator and Presenter
- “Disrupting Business as Usual,” Georgia Independent School Association, 2018, Content Creator and Presenter
- *Full list available on staciamcfadden.com and/or upon request*

EDUCATION

- M.Ed., Education Leadership, Klingenstein Center, Teachers College, Columbia University, 2021
- M.A., Computing and Education, Teachers College, Columbia University, 2006
- B.S., Computer Science, Elizabeth City State University, 1997

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

- NAIS School Leadership Institute Residential Program, Faculty Member, 2019–present; Participant, 2017
- Inaugural INDEX Academic Leadership Summit, 2025
- NAIS Fellowship for Aspiring Heads, Participant, 2023-2025
- NWAIS Artificial Intelligence Task Force, 2023
- Association of Technology Leaders in Independent Schools (ATLIS), Board Member, 2020–2024
- Carl E. Sanders YMCA, Board Member, 2019–2023
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Marietta-Roswell Alumnae Chapter, Executive Board, 2013–2019