

## FRAN SERENKA, ED.D

Clinical Associate Professor

Program Director / Educational Administration and Supervision

School of Education

312 Canevin Hall

[serenkaf@duq.edu](mailto:serenkaf@duq.edu)

### EDUCATION

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

**ED.D. Educational Leadership**

2002 - 2009

Dissertation Research: Student Perceptions of Resiliency

Letter of Eligibility awarded May 2005

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

**M.S. Educational Administration**

1993 - 1998

Administrative Certificates – Elementary and Secondary Principal/Permanent

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

**Graduate work in Political Science/Public Policy and Education**

1980 - 1984

Graduate Assistant in the Department of Political Science

Teaching Certificate – Secondary Social Studies/Permanent

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

**B.A. Political Science and Psychology, Philosophy Minor**

1976 - 1980

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

**Clinical Associate Professor and Program Director**

2014 - Present

Montour School District, McKees Rocks, PA

**Director of Special Education and Pupil Services/Substitute Superintendent**

2011 - 2014

Oversee Pupil Services and Special Education issues

Check compliance of all programs and placements

Assist the Superintendent with various District projects

Research programming for a new Pre-K -4 building

Serve as Substitute Superintendent when required

Sto-Rox School District, McKees Rocks, PA

**Superintendent of Schools**

2005 - 2011

Systems Analysis of the entire District/ Standards Aligned System

Reform strategies inserted

Forward progress for four years as measured by PVAAS

One of the top 50 school districts in the Commonwealth to have achieved the greatest academic gains over a five-year period

First commission 2005 - 2010 / Second commission 2010 – 2013

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE *(Continued)*

Woodland Hills School District, Rankin, PA <b>Building Principal / Rankin Intermediate School</b> Grades 4 - 6 in a "Making Progress" School Professional Development including root cause and data analysis	2004 - 2005
Woodland Hills School District, Rankin, PA <b>Building Principal / Woodland Hills West</b> Grades 7 - 9 for one year, Middle Level, grades 7 and 8 for two years. Middle Level lead administrator for curriculum and instruction	2001 - 2004
Steel Valley School District, Homestead, PA <b>Building Principal / Barrett Elementary</b> Grades 1- 5 with Learning Support and Autistic Support Federal Programs and Special Projects School Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Project	1998 - 2001
Diocese of Pittsburgh, Duquesne, Pittsburgh, PA <b>Building Principal and Financial Administrator/Duquesne Catholic School</b> Pre-School 3 year olds through Grade 8 Budget, Curriculum, Student self-management	1992 - 1998
Diocese of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA <b>Middle School Social Studies Teacher and Discipline Lead / St. George School Bishop Leonard School</b> Grades 7 and 8	1986 - 1992
Allegheny Intermediate Unit #3, Pittsburgh, PA <b>Teacher of the gifted for Clairton High School and area parochial schools</b> Grade 6 to 12	1985 - 1986
Diocese of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA <b>Middle School Social Studies Teacher / St. James School - West End</b> Grades 7 and 8	1984 - 1985
Academy of the Sacred Heart, Hoboken, NJ <b>High School Social Science Teacher</b> Grade 9 -12	1982 - 1984
Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA <b>Graduate Teaching Assistant in Political Science</b> McAnulty College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Why Nations Go to War Comparative Political Systems Western Political Thought	1980 - 1982

## TEACHING

<b>Graduate Courses Taught at Duquesne University</b>	2014 - Present
GADS 502 Strategic Resource Management	
GADS 509 Independent Study	
GADS 547 Advanced Curriculum	
GADS 557 Supervision	
GADS 575 Middle Level School Practice and Organization	
GADS 675 Secondary School Administration and Practice	
GADS 700 Orientation to School Leadership	
GADS 701 Principal Field Experience 1	
GADS 702 Principal Field Experience 2	
GADS 703 Administration and Practice	
GADS 704 Supervisory Field Experience 1	
GADS 706 Supervisory Practice	
GADS 707 Superintendent Letter of Eligibility – Commissioned Competencies	
GFDE 744 Superintendent Letter of Eligibility – District Level Leadership	

## SERVICE

<b>Service to the Institution</b>	
Faculty Advisor	2014 - Present
UCEA Plenum Representative	2018 - Present
UCEA Center Interim Director	2015 - 2016
DELS Planning Committee	2014 - 2016
ProDEL Redesign Committee	2014 - 2015
Dissertation Committee as a Chair	
Jennifer Mann, Educational Leadership Program	2014 - 2015
Dissertation Committee as a Member	
Jordan Cotton, Instructional Technology and Leadership	2018
Dan Bosnic, Educational Leadership Program	2017 - 2018
Erin Grimm, Educational Leadership Program	2014 - 2015
Nina Sacco, Educational Leadership Program	2014
Dan Gittens, Educational Leadership Program	2014
Karen Ferrick-Roman, Educational Leadership Program	2014
<b>Service to the Profession</b>	
Academic Conference Moderator/Facilitator	
AERA – William L. Boyd Workshop, Washington, District of Columbia	2016
Academic Conference Panelist	
Student Performance Profile Feedback – Allegheny Intermediate Unit	2015
Board Member Advisory Board / The Education Partnership, Pittsburgh, Pa	2008 - Present
Pennsylvania Leadership Development Center, Pittsburgh, PA	2005 - Present
Pennsylvania Charter School Initiative, Pittsburgh, PA	2013 - Present

## PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND PAPERS

Serenka, F. J., (2015). University Council of Educational Administration (UCEA), San Diego, CA.

Serenka, F. J., (2015). *Program Funding for Schools: Opening the Dialogue / Exploring Possibilities*. Junior Achievement of Western Pennsylvania, Homestead, PA.

Serenka, F. J., (2015). *What Can We Do As Leaders to Improve Patient Care?* University of Pittsburgh Interdisciplinary Leadership Forum, Pittsburgh, PA.

Serenka, F.J. (2012). *As defined by her shoes: On life, love, and leadership*. [Manuscript outline] Personal archives.

Serenka, F. J. (2011). *E-Strategic Planning: Montour School District* [Comprehensive Planning Document, Special Education and Pupil Services Plans]. PDE Web Portal.

Serenka F. J. (2011). *E-Strategic Planning Special Education Plan: Montour School District* [Comprehensive Planning Document]. PDE Web Portal.

Serenka, F. J. (2010). *Beyond Dissolution and Dispersion: A Phenomenological Analysis of (Student) Perception as Related to Resiliency*. EDS, 2010.

- Research participants, Duquesne Public High School

Serenka F. J. (2008, Revised 2010 and 2013). *PLDC corollary standard 5: Leadership as advocacy*. Program design and delivery, PLDC.

Serenka F. J. (2007). *E-Strategic Planning: Sto-Rox School District* [Comprehensive Planning Document]. PDE Web Portal.

Serenka, F. J. (2006). *...One student at a time*. [PowerPoint Slides]. Retrieved from personal database.

Serenka, F. J. (2005). *Creating a culture of academic excellence*. [PowerPoint Slides]. Retrieved from personal database.

Serenka, F. J., (2003). *Mid-Atlantic Laboratory for Student Success*. (Collaboration). Field notes. LSS, Temple University, Philadelphia.

## AFFILIATIONS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

- 2010 to Present Mass Customized Learning National and Regional Consortium
- 2012 to 2016 Duquesne University Alumni Board of Governors member
- 2010 to 2011 Board Member and Secretary of the Board for The Education Partnership
- 2008 –Present Course Developer for Corollary Standard #5, *Leadership as Advocacy*, in the Pennsylvania Inspired Leaders coursework continuum
- 2010 UCEA Educational Leadership Award Nominee
- 2009 Junior Achievement Educator of the Year for Western Pennsylvania
- 2008 Nominee Western Pennsylvania Forum for Superintendents

AFFILIATIONS, AWARDS, AND HONORS *continued*

Operation Public Education Participant, Harrisburg, Pa  
Temple University Distinguished Principal Fellow, Philadelphia, PA  
School Performance Network, Pittsburgh, PA  
Henderson Award Winner, 2004, Duquesne University  
School Performance Network Enterprising Educators Group  
PLDC Board of Sponsors Member  
EPLC Fellow, 2001 cohort, Harrisburg, PA  
Essential Learning Criteria in the Steel Valley School District  
Curriculum Delivery Framework at the Middle Level in the Woodland Hills School District  
Created an inclusive environment for special needs students in regular education classroom at elementary and secondary levels  
Directed a full systems analysis of the Sto-Rox School District beginning its fifth year of reform.  
Charles Schwahn trained in use of the Selective Leadership Instrument  
Constructed a Continuum of Care in the Sto-Rox School District according to the RTI model for both academics and behavior

## COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Volunteer for Veterans Hospital and Activities  
Carnegie Library of Munhall, Fund raising  
Founded the Sto-Rox Education Foundation  
Education Advocacy / PA, NJ  
Collaborate with the Consortium for Public Education on Student Resiliency  
Junior Achievement of Western Pennsylvania

## MEMBERSHIPS

Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators  
American Association of School Administrators  
Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development  
PA- Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development  
University Council for Educational Administration