



Senior Program Developer and Content Editor

Joanne Durham

Joanne Durham is a Senior Program Developer and Content Editor at Schoolwide, Inc. She began her educational career in 1992 as an elementary teacher for Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) in Maryland. From her classroom teaching experience, Joanne became Supervisor of Elementary Reading for PGCPS where she developed and implemented reading curriculum and provided professional development for Pre K-5th grade teachers in over 130 schools. She also spent four years leading the development of reading and writing workshops and projects to deepen reading comprehension in selected elementary and middle schools. She provided professional development for elementary and middle school teachers, coaches, and administrators on topics such as "Bridging to Common Core," "Collaborative Lesson Planning in Reading/Language Arts," and "Support for Special Educators and ESOL Teachers in Literacy Instruction." For her contributions to PGCPS, she was given the Outstanding Educator award for 2011.

With her educational expertise, Joanne has presented to audiences at the National Conferences of the National Council of Social Studies, the International Reading Association (IRA), and the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), just to name a few. Continuing her passion for teaching, she also held Adjunct Professor/Faculty positions at Trinity University, University of Maryland, and McDaniel College.

Joanne has also authored journal articles and chapters in professional books published by Corwin, Heinemann, Jossey-Bass, and the IRA. In addition to writing about teaching, Joanne also composes poetry that has been featured in publications by the NCTE and the Reading Recovery Council of North America.

Joanne holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Douglas College, Rutgers University, and a Masters of Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Maryland. Her other professional accreditations include Reading Specialist K-12, Maryland Administrative Certification I and II, Reading Recovery training, and Maryland online teaching certification.

Beside all of her educational accomplishments, Joanne is also an activist with a passion for social justice that inspired her to become a teacher in the first place. It has been her most rewarding experience to find ways to help children across many races and cultures to grow in confidence and find their own voices. Being able to shape an instructional approach that is meaningful and worthwhile for children is Joanne's favorite part of her position at Schoolwide. When she isn't writing or teaching, Joanne plays tennis, practices yoga, spends time at the beach, and enjoys her family and friends.

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