



MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL  
ADMINISTRATORS' ASSOCIATION



*MSAA and Courage & Renewal Northeast  
announce two (2) new cohorts of*

NORTHEAST  
**Courage  
& Renewal**

## **The Soul of Leadership: Courage, Presence, and Integrity**

*A yearlong personal & leadership renewal program for PreK-12 school leaders*



The unprecedented challenges posed by the coronavirus pandemic, along with the national cries for equity and racial justice, underscore more than ever the crucial role that school leaders play in creating a caring and culturally responsive school culture. In order to lead and thrive, school leaders need time and support to develop their social-emotional capacity to manage job-related stress, build trust, and model caring and culturally responsive behaviors.

We invite you to deepen your own development as a leader. *The Soul of Leadership: Courage, Presence and Integrity* gives school leaders the opportunity to reflect on their lives and work through contemplative and reflective practices drawn from the Center of Courage and Renewal and the fields of mindfulness, social and emotional learning, neuroscience, and the arts.

Over the past two years, MSAA has partnered with [Courage and Renewal Northeast](#) to offer this unique experience for principals. Over 50 principals from all levels and representing a wide range of districts across Massachusetts have participated in our first two cohorts. With the ongoing generous support of the [Angell Foundation](#), we are pleased to offer two new cohorts this year – and open the program to include assistant principals.

The program helps leaders integrate reflective practices into the routine of administrative team and staff meetings and apply these practices to their daily work throughout the school. It also increases their capacity to facilitate challenging and necessary conversations around issues of systemic racism. Participants all receive a copy of the *Leading Together: Strengthening Relational Trust in Schools®* guidebook. The program enhances participants' capacity as leaders, provides a lived experience of the process of building relational trust, and offers strategies to help strengthen SEL and well-being in their adult community.

*"If it is true that everything rises and falls on leadership, then the leader must be healthy and whole from the inside out. The Soul of Leadership program provides the school leader with a*

*thoughtful, nourishing approach to the healing of mind, body and soul. Without attention to this dimension, successful school and personal transformation cannot be sustained."*

Ron Walker, Executive Director, Coalition for Schools Educating Boys of Color

**Format:** The program was originally designed as a blended format of 4 in-person retreat sessions for a cohort of 25 held quarterly over the school year combined with virtual small group video-conference sessions in between. With the pandemic, we converted to virtual retreats last spring and were successful in maintaining the integrity of the work. The additional small group sessions provide an opportunity to check in on participants' intentions for themselves and their schools, continue to experience protocols and practices and keep the momentum of their experience moving forward.

<b>SCHEDULE</b>	<b>Cohort 3A</b>	<b>Cohort 3B</b>
Whole Group Virtual Retreats (2 hours)	<b>Wednesdays</b> <b>8:00-10:00 am</b> January 20 February 3 April 7	<b>Thursdays</b> <b>8:00-10:00 am</b> January 21 February 4 April 8
Virtual Small Group Sessions (75 minutes) <i>Days &amp; Times TBA: Choose a before- or after-school time that fits your schedule.</i>	March April May	March April May
Full Day In-Person Retreat* <i>*Virtual if necessary</i>	June 23	June 24
Facilitators	Pamela Seigle Rick Rogers Marco Curnen Nancy MacKay	Chip Wood Ed Kaufman Pipier Smith-Mumford

**FEE:** \$600 Members / \$800 Non-Members

**To Register and Apply:**

1. Register here [SoL Registration](#) by Friday, November 30.  
For registration questions, contact Vickie Ellison [vellison@msaa.org](mailto:vellison@msaa.org).
2. Please email to [rickrogers409@gmail.com](mailto:rickrogers409@gmail.com) a brief statement describing why you are interested in participating in this program at this time and your hopes for participation.

You will receive confirmation of acceptance by December 4.

*"The most valuable thing for me about the sessions for Soul of Leadership is that you somehow manage to slow down time. In our work in schools, things happen fast, fast, fast and people want decisions fast, fast, fast...In our sessions there are so many ways that you model and teach slowing down. I'm working to use those techniques in my work life so that I can slow down and improve my decision making."*

*Experienced Principal*

**Cohort 3A Facilitators**

**Pamela Seigle** considers it a privilege to work with teachers, principals and school communities in supporting SEL for adults and students, and creating communities where everyone feels valued, seen and heard. She has led Courage & Renewal Northeast, started as an affiliate of the National Center for Courage & Renewal and is

the founder of Open Circle at the Wellesley Centers for Women. Pamela is co-developer of *Leading Together: Building Adult Communities in Schools and Soul of Leadership*. She brings her love of singing and the belief that the arts connect us to our shared humanity, into her work in schools and non.-profit organizations.

**Rick Rogers** is the program coordinator and a facilitator for *Soul of Leadership*. He brings over 35 years of experience in public education as a teacher and a principal in urban and suburban settings. He is passionate about the principalship and believes in the power of reflective practice. His current work focuses on supporting principals and leadership teams as a leadership coach and consultant. He has also been a facilitator for the National Institute of School Leadership and an adjunct instructor at UMass Lowell.

**Marco Curnen** has been an educator for more than 25 years. His journey has included numerous roles in public schools: high school Spanish teacher, principal of a K-8 school, and currently, as the assistant principal at a dual-immersion (Spanish/English) JK-8 school. Through his work in schools and facilitating adult learning experiences, Marco strives to be an actively - as in, each and every day - anti-racist educator and instructional leader who aspires to find that elusive balance between working hard and slowing down enough to reflect on the impacts of his - and others' - work.

**Nancy MacKay** is a Senior Program Manager with Open Circle at the Wellesley Centers for Women, Wellesley College. She has over 20 years of experience training and coaching educators to implement Open Circle and social and emotional learning in their school communities. Nancy has a special interest in issues of equity, social justice and mindfulness.

### **Cohort 3B Facilitators**

**Chip Wood** is an elder in the fields of education and child development, carrying the soul of a five-year-old as a life-companion, and, for better or worse, never abandoning the corny nickname bequeathed him by his parents. He has served the public as a teacher, principal and curriculum coordinator, is a co-founder of *Responsive Classroom*, and has been a facilitator prepared by the Center for Courage and Renewal for twenty years.

**Ed Kaufman** has been involved in education for forty years, as an elementary teacher, junior high math teacher, college counselor, and college instructor in psychology and education. Before partial retirement, Ed taught and was principal at the same elementary school for 23 years. Since then he has done interim principal work and remote learning administration, and particularly enjoys consulting with principals individually, and in small and large groups.

**Pipier Smith-Mumford** has been an educator for over 40 years, starting as a high school guidance counselor, moving to administration as a principal of a 9th grade campus, and a K-8 school. Presently, she is working as a senior lecturer and field director in the education leadership and policy studies program at Boston University while mentoring new principals and consulting with area school administrators and faculty on issues of diversity, equity and inclusion.

**This program is a partnership between the Massachusetts School Administrators' Association and Courage & Renewal Northeast and is generously supported by a grant from the [Angell Foundation](#).**

**LEADERSHIP MATTERS**

