

BRIGID COLLINS

Sag Harbor, NY 11963 | 631.745.8590 | bcollins@rocketmail.com

Qualifications Summary

Seasoned and highly motivated educator with Doctorate in Educational Leadership and Administration. Proven track record of formulating and implementing strategic plans and staff development programs while offering instructional leadership to ensure students' academic success. Well-versed in designing curriculum, executing innovative curricular initiatives, and promoting an inclusive learning environment. An intuitive leader possessing strong communication, interpersonal, and problem-solving skills with ability to interact with staff, parents, and students with professionalism.

Areas of Expertise

School Leadership & Operations | Effective Programs Development | Classroom & Curriculum Management
Instructional Strategies Development & Execution | Standardized Testing | Instructional Best Practices
Team Training & Leadership | Cross-functional Coordination | Budgeting & Cost Control | Relationship Building

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Andes Central School District School Superintendent

2023 to Present

Offer strategic leadership by developing and implementing the district's vision, mission, and long-term goals while fostering a culture of continuous improvement to maximize students' achievement.

- Developed an overall instructional vision to promote academic development, provided rigorous learning opportunities, and led every student towards achieving greatest potential.
- Advocated school's interests as Chief Executive Officer by presenting related issues to the Board of Directors.
- Established close relationships with families to individualize student learning and promoted learning as a meaningful process, while enhancing ties with the broader community.
- Employed collaborative leadership abilities to develop and sustain strong collegial relationships throughout all levels of faculty and staff, along with overseeing the school budget to enhance program and facilities.

Montauk School, Pre-K to Grade 8 District, Montauk, NY Assistant Principal / Principal of Programs

2007 to 2025

Fostered a positive learning environment by closely monitoring all students and formulating and enforcing an efficient disciplinary system. Secured accurate and timely test results by managing New York State testing, including scheduling and scoring procedures for the entire district.

- Assisted in strategic planning and policy-making by attending Board of Education and RTI Committee meetings while supporting the Principal in the budget development and management.
- Improved data-driven decision-making by serving as the Chief Information Officer and Data Coordinator.
- Increased student motivation by supervising the school-wide enrichment program.
- Encouraged academic merit by collaborating with the Principal in designing and upholding high-caliber educational programs for students in PreK-8.
- Improved parent involvement and school relationships by serving as an intermediary between parents and the school, including being involved in parent-teacher conferences.
- Facilitated smooth activities by managing summer programs as Principal, including admin and scheduling tasks.
- Optimized instructional efficiency through analysis of the school curriculum and advocating for required changes and enhancements as Chair of the Curriculum Committee.
- Built and nurtured talent by empowering and stimulating professional personnel through district performance plans, annual certification processes, and teacher assessments.
- Delivered effective projects using program management techniques to manage the Smart Schools Bond Act projects, school club's brochure, and Enrichment for All program.
- Facilitated student wellness and community involvement by helping to plan and implement Red Ribbon Week and Wellness Week programs.
- Demonstrated global citizenship and organizational abilities by developing and implementing a year-round book drive to build libraries for Malawi children, Africa.

BRIGID COLLINS

Peconic Teacher Center (PTC), Southampton, NY
Director / Staff Development Lead Teacher

2001 to 2007

Streamlined evaluation processes by aligning cluster scoring for NY State Tests for grades 3-8 to ensure accurate assessment of student achievement. Maximized returns on investment by administering state and local funding budgets.

- Participated in administrative instructional meetings and superintendent planning sessions to share insights.
- Directed and steered about 1,500 educators and school administrators throughout the Hampton Bays to Montauk area toward a unified, collaborative educational experience.
- Enabled collaborative decision-making by holding Policy Board meetings with school district representatives of all consortium member school districts and aligning on main educational initiatives.
- Served as a Staff Development Lead Teacher for Southampton Schools, guided new staff orientation, training, and peer coach program while managing the My Learning Plan site for district staff.
- Enhanced teaching practices by organizing professional development workshops for teachers, including Teachers College training and the reading / writing workshop model.
- Successfully formulated and implemented the district staff development plan, prioritized Pre-K through 12 literacy support, and executed a new Pre-K through grade 6 math program.
- Led in curriculum innovation by acquiring knowledge through BOCES and district demonstrations to roll out a curriculum mapping web-based system districtwide.
- Made contributions to curriculum design and alignment through active membership in the Curriculum Council, District Math Task Force, and District Literacy Team.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

CO-Founder/Director – East End Reading and Writing Project, Long Island University – Southampton, NY

Lead ELA Teacher (GRADES 5-8), Southampton Schools – Southampton, NY

Teacher of English – Grades 9-12 and Project Advance Writing Program, Syracuse University

ESL – ELA Team Teacher, East Hampton High School – East Hampton, NY

Teacher of Reading and Language Arts – Grades 6-7, Oneida Middle School – Schenectady, NY

EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

Doctorate, Ed.D. Educational Leadership and Administration – St. John's University – New York City, NY

Dissertation: *Teacher Beliefs about Literacy Learning and Classroom Practices, A Survey-Based Study of Rural Eastern Long Island School Districts and Implications for Instructional Leadership*

School District Administration Certification (SDA) (SAS), C.W. Post – Long Island University – Brookville, NY

Master of Arts in Teaching English – Union College – Schenectady, NY

Master of Education, Human Services and Administration – Springfield College – Springfield, MA

Bachelor of Arts, Anthropology – Mount Holyoke College – South Hadley, MA

Program of Irish Studies, Irish History and Literature – Trinity College – Dublin, Ireland

Certificate, Office Management and Information Skills – Katharine Gibbs School – Boston, MA

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Women in Educational Leadership, Harvard University

Certificate of Excellence, St. John's University, Ed.D. Educational Leadership and Administration, and speaker at education symposium

Certificate, School Leaders Seminar: What Every School Leader Needs to Know about Effective Literacy Teaching and Coaching

National Endowment for the Humanities Teaching Fellowship with Honorarium

Teaching Fellowship with Honorarium, Springfield College

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development | **Member**, National Council of Teachers of English

Member, Phi Delta Kappa Intl. | **Member**, National Staff Development Council | **Member**, Intl. Reading Association

Personal Statement, Brigid Collins, Ed.D.:

As a dedicated educational leader with a passion for student-centered instruction, I believe that the core mission of a school is to ensure that every student is empowered to achieve their full potential. My vision as a school leader is grounded in the belief that instructional excellence is the most powerful lever for character, opportunity, and lifelong success. I am committed to building a school culture where high expectations, innovation, and continuous improvement are not only valued but lived every day—in classrooms, in leadership, and in our community partnerships. The guiding ideal and principle should always be to grow a learning community rooted in care, excellence and connection.

Throughout my career, I have led with the conviction that leadership is not about a title but about influence, integrity, and impact. Whether coaching principals, aligning curriculum, or fostering professional development, I have worked to build a collaborative culture in which educators are inspired and supported to refine their practice and deepen student learning. I believe strong leaders cultivate other leaders, and I have prioritized mentoring and empowering school teams to become dynamic engines of change and inspiration in their buildings.

Growing a learning community requires both strategic direction and authentic relationships. I have led school-wide initiatives to align goals, instructional frameworks, and assessment systems with a shared vision of academic excellence. At the same time, I have been intentional about listening to the voices of teachers, families, and students—ensuring that our work is both rigorous and responsive. I believe that when a community sees itself reflected in its school and feels ownership of its outcomes, real transformation takes root.

As a school leader, my leadership is guided by clarity of vision, operational integrity, and an unwavering focus on fair-mindedness. I hold myself and my team accountable not just for results, but for the conditions we create for teaching and learning. Excellence is not a destination; it is a culture—one that must be nurtured daily through purposeful action, meaningful collaboration, and the belief that all students can thrive.

I am excited to lead a school that shares this vision and is ready to move boldly toward a future where every learner is equipped to lead, serve, and succeed.

May 21, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

It is with great pride and deep appreciation that I write this letter of recommendation for Dr. Collins in support of her candidacy for a school leadership or superintendent position. As Board President of Andes Central School, I have had the distinct privilege of working closely with Dr. Collins and witnessing her unwavering dedication to student success and district improvement.

Dr. Collins consistently puts the education of students and the needs of the district first. Every initiative she undertakes is rooted in a genuine commitment to what is best for students—academically, emotionally, and socially. Her ability to listen, lead, and act with integrity has earned her the respect of staff, families, and the wider community.

When Dr. Collins joined Andes Central School, our district was facing serious challenges, including financial instability and issues with state compliance. What could have been a time of continued struggle became a turning point under her leadership. Through her strategic vision, transparent communication, and tireless work ethic, Dr. Collins guided us back to financial stability and full compliance. Her leadership not only restored confidence in our district but also created a foundation for long-term growth and success.

Dr. Collins is more than an administrator—she is a compassionate and visionary leader who inspires excellence in everyone around her. She builds strong relationships, leads with humility, and never loses sight of the ultimate goal: providing every student with a high-quality education.

I wholeheartedly recommend Dr. Collins for any school leadership position. She will be an invaluable asset to any district fortunate enough to have her at the helm.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kelly Bauer". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Kelly Bauer
Board President
Andes Central School
845 853 3001
kbauer@andescentralschool.org

To Whom it May Concern,

May 19, 2025

I'm writing to recommend Dr. Brigid Collins for her skills as an effective, compassionate school leader. As the parent of a student at Andes Central School in Andes, New York, I've witnessed Dr. Collins' work as our school Superintendent for the last two years. Dr. Collins' intelligence when it comes to school leadership, as well as her warm approachability for students and families, truly contribute to her strength as a school leader.

Andes Central School is a unique school with fewer than 100 students, serving grades preK-12. The community around ACS, while rural, is close-knit and supportive. From the start of our time at ACS, I observed how Dr. Collins brought her unique combination of professionalism, compassion, and vision to the school community. Whether navigating challenging decisions or celebrating student successes—like the school musical program, which returned under Dr. Collins' leadership after a long hiatus— Dr. Collins consistently demonstrates a calm, thoughtful presence.

Dr. Collins is an attentive listener and open collaborator; under her leadership, ACS opened a thriving 3-K program, which has been a huge boon to families in our community. Her efforts to strengthen connections among staff and between the school and the broader community have had a lasting, positive impact. She is also an organized and forward-thinking administrator, approaching complex challenges with strategic insight. Her leadership during times of uncertainty—whether related to policy shifts, budget constraints, or other changes—has been nothing short of admirable. When my own child has had struggles in class, Dr. Collins has been incredibly generous in offering her time and attention to helping our family navigate a path forward. She is the kind of leader who inspires confidence simply by the way she listens, communicates, and acts.

In sum, Dr. Collins is a principled and passionate educator whose talents will certainly enrich any school community fortunate enough to have her. I have every confidence that she'll bring the same level of dedication, kindness, and excellence to her next role as she has brought to ours.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss Dr. Brigid Collins' qualifications further.

Sincerely,
Dr. Iris Cushing, Andes Central School Parent

(718) 316-8065

Mary E. Pelletier
Head Teacher, 4th Grade
Andes Central School
85 Delaware Ave.
Andes, NY 13731

May 21, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to offer my wholehearted recommendation for Dr. Brigid Collins, who is applying for a school leadership position. I have had the privilege of working closely with her in her role as Superintendent of Andes Central School, a rural public school district in the western foothills of the Catskills in upstate New York. In addition, I have known Dr. Collins in another important role, that of parent to one of my fourth-grade students this year. She has demonstrated exceptional leadership, a deep commitment to instructional excellence, and a passion for building meaningful relationships with students, staff, and families.

Dr. Collins is a highly skilled and experienced educator who has made a transformative impact on our district. Among her many accomplishments, she facilitated a comprehensive and inclusive process to develop a shared instructional vision. Through collaborative planning sessions and professional development initiatives, she helped align instructional practices across grade levels and ensured that our educational goals were rooted in equity, high expectations, and student engagement.

In a small rural school with a diverse socio-economic mix and a wide range of learning styles, Dr. Collins consistently challenges us to reflect on and answer the fundamental question: *"What does high-quality education look like?"* Her leadership ensures that this is not a rhetorical question, but a guiding principle. She adeptly oversees the full educational experience of every child in our school, never losing sight of individual needs while maintaining a comprehensive vision. As a mentor to teachers and a collaborative partner to all faculty and staff, she balances instructional priorities with the operational realities of managing the district's budget, the Board of Education, and the maintenance of buildings and grounds. Her ability to lead across all these dimensions—without compromising her commitment to students and teachers—speaks volumes about her capacity as a school leader.

What sets her apart is her unwavering support of staff. As an administrator, Dr. Collins actively seeks out opportunities to enrich student learning—whether by pursuing funding for classroom projects, championing field trips that broaden our students' experiences, or ensuring teachers have the resources they need to bring their ideas to life.

With her wealth of classroom experience, including years as a literacy specialist, Dr. Collins brings an invaluable depth of instructional knowledge. She regularly shares practical strategies, grounded in research and experience, and encourages staff to reflect, grow, and continually strive for excellence in their classrooms. Whether through formal professional development or everyday conversations, her insights have had a lasting influence on teaching and learning throughout our district. One particularly impactful initiative she facilitated is *Spirit Meet*—a school-wide gathering that elevated school pride and connection by giving students and teachers a platform to showcase classroom activities, share new learning, and celebrate academic and personal growth. This event quickly became a highlight of our school culture, fostering excitement and unity across grades.

In addition to instructional leadership, Dr. Collins has prioritized building strong partnerships with families and the broader community. In our rural context, where connection and trust are essential, she has worked tirelessly to ensure families feel heard and included in their children's education. This inclusive leadership style has strengthened school culture and fostered a shared sense of purpose across all stakeholders.

It is rare to find a leader who combines visionary thinking with such practical wisdom, care for the school community, and commitment to excellence. Dr. Collins is a collaborative, forward-thinking, and principled leader who would be a tremendous asset to any educational institution.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss her qualifications further. We are truly sad to see Dr. Collins and her family leave our district, but we have no doubt that she will continue to make a meaningful impact in whatever educational endeavor she chooses to pursue. I recommend her with great enthusiasm.

Sincerely yours,

Mary E. Pelletier

Mary E. Pelletier
mpelletier@andescentralschool.org
(802) 345-5142

May 21, 2025

To Whom it May Concern:

I am honored to be asked to write this letter of recommendation on behalf of a talented educator, Dr. Brigid Collins. I have known and worked with Brigid for the last two years and have nothing but confidence in all she has done. It is with great pleasure and confidence that I write this letter of recommendation on her behalf.

My work with Brigid began in 2023. At this time, Brigid and I had just started our time at Andes Central School, her as the superintendent and myself and the director of guidance/school business official. Brigid began her superintendency having to follow many former interim superintendents, so she had her work cut out for her. Brigid carried herself with an immense amount of professionalism, courtesy and thoughtfulness for the faculty, staff, students and the community. We worked on not only one, but two different unit contract negotiations and Brigid was able to successfully negotiate both of those contracts for the district for the next three years. This is just one example of the many things that Brigid has been able to accomplish in such a short time.

Dr. Collins has made many positive contributions to the district, including her Spirit Meet initiative. Our students have been able to showcase their talents, achievements and our staff have enjoyed this monthly gathering. Our families have spoken so highly of this added feature to our district and Brigid has been on the forefront of this. Brigid has also added a three year-old program into our district for the first time this school year. Within our BOCES region, we are the only school to open our doors to three year olds and the outburst of appreciation and support for this program has set our district apart from many others.

I am not exaggerating Brigid's worth and abilities. I support her completely and without reservation. She is the very best of what I have seen of a school leader. I look forward to speaking with you about Dr. Brigid Collins and what she will bring to your community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Samantha Candrea', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Samantha Candrea