
Beth Ratway

Education

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| Doctoral Studies | Enrolled in Ph.D. program at University of Wisconsin–Madison, Education |
| M.A. | 1994, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, History |
| B.A. | 1991, St. Norbert College, History |

Honors and Awards

Bill Eau Claire Memorial Award for Excellence in Teaching Law-Related Education, The State Bar of Wisconsin, 2003

Present Position

Senior Consultant, American Institutes for Research (AIR) (2011–Present)

Works to assist state education agencies and intermediate school districts with implementation of State Standards and developing innovative professional development systems that improve academic achievement for all students. Leads workshops and gives presentations to state education leaders, teachers, and community and business leaders on developing a new vision for education that prepares students for 21st-century colleges, careers, and citizenship; on standards implementation; on professional development, career readiness, literacy across content areas, civic engagement, and financial literacy; and numerous specific topics on implementing education reform. Has extensive policy and leadership development experience, with a particular focus on Standards Implementation, Pk-16 Councils and professional development,. Trained in using the Continuous Improvement Model (TQM). Extensive experience with standards development and implementation, research-based instructional strategies, and professional development. Skilled in continuous analysis, assessment, and evaluation of professional development and coaching programs. Experienced in data-based decision making, time management, change theory, professional learning communities, needs assessments, and instructional development. Has knowledge and experience with organizational and systemic change, the use of technology to enhance teaching and learning, engaged learning, assessment design, and K–12 problem solving and critical thinking.

Professional Experience

Project Lead, Colorado Social Studies Standards Gap Analysis, Central Comprehensive Center (2016-present)

This project includes conducting an in depth analysis of the Colorado Social Studies standards to the C3 framework, other state standards and international standards and frameworks. The work includes using an alignment protocol and process, development of final reports, an analysis summary and a transition map for revising the social studies

standards. Current work includes co- developing plans to revise the standards and build implementation plans for the state and local levels.

Project Lead, Nebraska Content Area Standards Implementation Plan, College and Career Readiness and Success Center (2016-present)

This project includes working with the Nebraska Department of Education and the North Central Comprehensive Center to share research and promising practices of standards implementation. The work included planning three in-person task force meetings. During these meetings, CCRS Center staff shared examples from other states and focused on building the capacity of the state to make decisions moving forward. As part of this capacity-building work, NDE and CCRS co-facilitated task force meetings, which were attended by SEA staff, local school staff, and regional education agencies that support district, called educational service units (ESUs). Current work includes developing online tools and resources to help districts and schools use the implementation framework.

Project Lead, Iowa Department of Education Core Standards Support, Midwest Comprehensive Center (2014-present)

This project included leading teams to support implementation of the Iowa Core Standards. One team focused on designing online professional development modules to be used by regional service centers focusing on developing a common understanding of what it means to be a standards based system. The work also included design and development of a website and train the trainer sessions. The other area of work focused on developing a process to design high quality social studies standards connected to the C3 framework. The work included developing a research based process to design college and career ready social studies standards and the facilitation of workgroups to write the standards and design implementation supports for the standards. The work included developing an intensive review process for the social studies standards. Current work includes developing professional development to support initial implementation of the standards.

Project Lead, Hawaii Department of Education Social Studies Standards Support, Pacific Regional Comprehensive Center (2015-present)

This project included supporting the development of a revision process for the Hawaii Social Studies Standards. The project included working closely with the Hawaii Social Studies Consultant on a continuous basis to develop processes, tools and resources for the standards revision process. The work included creating protocols and rubrics to identify the writing team, frame the revision process and integration of the C3 into the revision process. It also included the co-facilitation of monthly meetings of social studies leaders to revise the secondary social studies standards. Current work includes facilitating the review process for the secondary standards and facilitating the development of the elementary social studies standards.

Project Lead, DoDEA Standards Gap Analysis, AIR (2014-15)

This project included leading four teams to conduct an in depth analysis of the DoDEA Mathematics and English Language Arts Standards and the Common Core State Standards, the DoDEA Science standards and the Next Generation Science Standards,

and the DoDEA Social Studies standards and the C3 framework. The work included designing an alignment protocol and process, development of final reports, an analysis summary and a transition map for implementing each set of standards.

Project Lead, Implementation of Minnesota Social Studies Standards, Midwest Comprehensive Center (2014-15)

This project included collaborating with the Minnesota Department of Education to plan, design and facilitate a set of statewide professional development workshops to help teachers in the field implement the new social studies standards. The work included design of a statewide survey for feedback regarding initial implementation issues, design and facilitation of workgroups to design tools and resources to support implementation and design, facilitation and evaluation of six statewide professional development workshops.

Project Lead, Arkansas Department of Education Social Studies Standards Support, South Central Comprehensive Center (2015-present)

This project included supporting implementation of the Arkansas Social Studies Standards. The project focused on working with the Arkansas Social Studies Specialist to develop resources to support statewide implementation of the revised Social Studies Standards. It included working with groups of social studies teachers to develop an online platform to house tools and resources for teachers to use to begin to implement the revised standards. The resources included tools to integrate inquiry into current practice.

Project Lead, Illinois State Board of Education Revision of Social Science Standards Support, Midwest Comprehensive Center (2015)

This project included leading teams to support revision of the Illinois Social Science Standards. The work included design and development of agendas and processes to facilitate the standards revision process. It also included a focus on content review of each draft of the standards. The work focused on integrating the C3 into the revision process. The project led to the development of a final report of recommendations to the State Board.

Policy Specialist, Network of Alliances for Geographic Education, National Geographic (2012-2015)

This project included working with a national network of geography educators. It included the development of presentations, resources and tools to help geography educators understand education policy at the local, state and national levels.

Project Lead, College and Career Readiness and Success Center and Central Comprehensive Centers (Missouri), Building Curriculum Plans for CTE, AIR (2013-2014)

This project included working with an external team made up of CTE, Mathematics and English Language Arts specialists from state education agencies. The work supported the development and implementation of model curriculum and online professional development modules to support developing curriculum in CTE aligned to College and Career Readiness Standards. The professional development modules focus on the complexity and depth of the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts,

the instructional shifts, and the current research based strategies and resources in CTE that can be used by teachers to support highly engaging, in-depth student learning of the standards. These professional development modules include high quality CTE materials and research based best practices that address the rigor of the Common Core Standards for English Language Arts.

Project Lead, Great Lakes East and Great Lakes West, South Central and Central Comprehensive Centers, Building the Bridge Between Social Studies and the Common Core State Standards for ELA, Comprehensive Center Network (2012–2013)

This project included working with an external planning team made up of social studies and English Language Arts specialists from state education agencies. The regional work supported the development and implementation of online professional development modules. The professional development modules focus on the complexity and depth of the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, the instructional shifts, and the current research based strategies and resources in social studies that can be used by teachers to support highly engaging, in-depth student learning of the standards. These professional development modules include high quality social studies materials and research based best practices that address the rigor of the Common Core Standards for English Language Arts.

Project Lead, Great Lakes East and Great Lakes West, Building a Collaborative Work Plan for Implementation of the Common Core State Standards, AIR/Learning Point Associates (2010–2012)

This project included working with an internal and external planning team. The external planning team consisted of high-level staff members from state education agencies. The work began with the development of a needs sensing survey and then continued with using that data with the internal and external planning teams to develop an agenda for a day and a half meeting that focused on giving states time to share current best practices in terms of implementation of the Common Core State Standards and then setting aside time for them to identify areas for cross-collaboration. The work included development of various tools to help states identify research-based best practices in terms of standards implementation and tools to develop and plan for cross-state collaboration using communities of practice models. Great Lakes East and Great Lakes West are administered by Learning Point Associates, an affiliate of AIR.

Employment History

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| 2010–Present | Senior Consultant, AIR |
| 2009–2010 | Senior Consultant, AIR |
| 2004–Present | Adjunct Instructor – Social Studies Methods, Cardinal Stritch University |
| 2012–2015 | Policy Specialist – Geography Alliance Network, National Geographic |
| 2009–2010 | Senior Consultant, Learning Point Associates |
| 2005–2009 | Social Studies Consultant, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction |
| 1999–2005 | Staff Development Coordinator, Wauwatosa School District |

1993–2005 Social Studies Educator, Wauwatosa School District
1994–2008 Mentor/Trainer, Center for Civic Education

Professional Affiliations

National Council for Social Studies – Board Member 2008-2011
Council of State Social Studies Specialists (CS4)
Wisconsin Council for Social Studies
Wisconsin Geographic Alliance
Economics Wisconsin – Board Member

Publications

Journal articles

Ratway, B. (2008). Asking the right questions to develop thinking skills. *Social Education*, 72(7), 392–395.

Books and book chapters

Contributor to *Civic Education Professional Development: Lay of the Land*. (2015).
Washington, DC: American Enterprise Institute

Contributor to *Guardians of Democracy* report. Professional Development section (2011).
Washington, DC: Civic Mission of Schools.

Ratway, B. (2009). *Planning curriculum in personal financial literacy*. Madison, WI: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

Contributor to *Project Citizen—Level II* student text and teacher’s guide. (2007). Calabasas, CA: Center for Civic Education.

Contributor to *We the People; the Citizen and the Constitution—Level III* student text and teacher’s guide. (2007). Calabasas, CA: Center for Civic Education.

Technical reports

Contributor to *MILE guide*. (2009). Tucson, AZ: Partnership for 21st Century Skills. Contributor to the development of the *Survey of enacted curriculum for social studies*. (2003). Washington, DC: CCSSO.