

Denise A. Snowden, Ph.D.

Founder and Chief Executive Officer



Contact

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Summary

Experienced leader and educator with 30 years in adult learning, leadership coaching, and organizational transformation. Founder and CEO of Coach to Lead, specializing in executive coaching, team development, learning rounds, and strategic planning. Proven track record in designing and facilitating impactful change in education systems and organizations nationwide.

Notable Accomplishments

- Named Top 50 Women Leaders of Columbus (2024)
- Founded Coach to Lead (2018)
- Presented at Carnegie Foundation Summit and U.S. Department of Education events (Teach2Lead)
- Recipient of Phi Delta Kappa International Dissertation Award and William Loadman Prize Recipient (2013)
- National Board Certification in Early Adolescence English Language Arts (2000)
- Earned Governor Taft's Educational Leadership Award (2000)
- Served on several governing boards

Education

- **Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)**
The Ohio State University 2012
Educational Administration
Dissertation - *Leading School Turnaround: The Lived Experience of Being a Transformation Coach*
- **Master of Education (M.Ed.)**
Ashland University 1999
Curriculum & Instruction, Literacy
- **Bachelor of Science (B.S.)**
Ashland University 1995
Elementary Education (1-8)

Experience

- **Founder & CEO**
Coach to Lead 2018-Present
 - Design and facilitate strategic planning, organizational redesign, and leadership development for school districts and non-profits.
 - Build networks of practitioners to support continuous growth.
 - Guide collective inquiry (learning rounds) and build turnaround leadership in districts to improve student outcomes.
 - Coach superintendents, district, and school leaders to strengthen their leadership practice.
- **Senior Graduate Lecturer, Educational Administration**
The Ohio State University 2014-2021
 - Developed and taught graduate courses in instructional leadership and strategic human capital management.
 - Led research projects and provided mentorship to future school and district leaders.
- **Senior Director & Consultant**
Battelle for Kids 2009-2018
 - Designed and implemented leadership development programs and coaching models.
 - Led national projects on school turnaround, blended learning, teacher leadership, and instructional leadership.
- **Regional Consultant, Reading First**
Ohio Department of Education 2005-2010
 - Executed literacy improvement efforts through coaching, implementation monitoring, and professional development in multiple, high needs school districts.
- **Program Officer, Lead Coach, Instructional Designer**
KnowledgeWorks' & Gates' Foundations 2002-2011
 - Led and coached the Early College High School Initiative and the Ohio High School Transformation Initiative (small schools).
 - Designed and led the secondary literacy initiative.
 - Developed and facilitated professional learning and school reform for educators and administrators nationwide.
- **Director of Teaching & Learning**
The Center for Leadership in Education 2001-2003
 - Developed and facilitated professional learning networks for teacher leaders, principals, directors, and superintendents.
 - Coordinated professional development programs aligned with various education initiatives, such as Success for All, Reggio Emilia, and National Board Certification.
- **Middle School Educator, Leader, & Innovator**
Firelands Local Schools - Lorain County, OH 1995-2001