



Zachary B. Mural Ph.D.

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Key Skills

- ❖ Multisite program administration, strategic/intentional leadership and organizational development, youth, camp, and early childhood program advancement
- ❖ Nationally recognized youth/child development and out-of-school time expert with an extensive presentation and publication record
- ❖ Professional skills include: relationship building and advocacy, training and supervision of managers, front-line staff, and trainers, budgeting and fiscal management, program and curriculum development, & multi-site program management
- ❖ Experience and comfort complying with, and adapting to, multiple state and national accreditation and licensing standards
- ❖ Two advanced degrees in education and child/youth development
- ❖ The ability to work independently and with multiple constituencies (staff, customers/members, stakeholders) while prioritizing multiple projects, analyzing challenges and opportunities, and gathering data from numerous sources to recognize and implement timely solutions

Education

Ph.D. in Educational Psychology and Educational Technology (2011), Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

M.A. in Education – Youth Development Emphasis (2004), Concordia University, St. Paul, MN

B.S. *cum laude* Sociology Major and Psychology Minor (1999), Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI

Experience *Selected Administrative, Training, and Program Experience*

Vice President of Education (February 2015 – Present), Minnieland Academy Family of Schools, Woodbridge, VA

- Lead the education department tasked with curriculum development and training/supporting managers and teachers at approximately 60 Minnieland, Merit, and Skipwith Academy schools across Virginia
- Managed a complete department restructuring intended to maximize efficiency while utilizing new technologies and instructional strategies to increase support to administrators and teaching staff in the field
- Provide direction, supervision, and training to all education department staff in matters related to the development and implementation of proprietary Kid Steps Curriculum
- Lead and facilitate company-wide review and revisions to all existing and future manager and teacher trainings

District Director, Regional Director, Director of Private Schools and OST Programs (May 2013 – February 2015), Minnieland Private School Division, Woodbridge, VA

- Responsible for the overall operations and fiscal management of up to nine schools in the private school division
- Managed growth from six to nine schools which included approximately a \$2.5M increase in revenue
- Provided direction, supervision, and training to administration and teaching staff through program oversight, curriculum supplementation, and ensuring compliance with state and local licensing/accreditation/code requirements
- Provided company-wide support and training for 60 before & after school and summer day camp programs including leading a rebranding and renewed effort to address summer learning loss

C.E.O./Consultant and Trainer (December 2010 – Present), Youth Development Consulting LLC, Centreville, VA

- Founded Youth Development Consulting to provide educational sessions, consulting, private trainings, and program and administrative support to educational and recreational programs
- Responsible for all aspects of LLC including program development and delivery, presentations and training, marketing, community relations, fiscal responsibility, and all other operational factors

Faculty Member (September 2011 – Present), Expert Online Training, Toronto, Canada

- Created two modules focused on after-school programs and learning
- In consultation with Creative Director, wrote two original scripts, performed as the on-camera personality, wrote quizzes and handouts

Branch/Program Director (August 2003 – October 2004), YMCA of Northern Michigan, Petoskey, MI

- In consultation with a newly established Board of Directors and an off-site Executive Director established programs and offices in a storefront YMCA facility
- Established and supervised two state licensed after-school programs, a teen/youth center facility, two successful youth sports programs, assisted with state YIG conference, and established a collaboration with a local school district to offer swimming lessons to local youth
- Responsible for total program development, marketing, facilities, supplies, staffing, community relations, budgeting, fiscal responsibility, and all other operational factors

Regional Supervisor (November 2001 – July 2003), Vermont Hills Family Life Center, Portland, OR

- Supervised approximately 20 member teaching/site director staff at seven school-age before and after-school programs in public and private schools
- Provided direction, supervision, and training to teaching staff through program oversight, curriculum supplementation, behavior modification assistance, and ensuring compliance with state licensing requirements
- Worked with school staff, teachers, and administrators to ensure safe and orderly facility conditions and to ensure collaborations
- Responsible for ensuring school-year and summer camp programs and staff worked with allotted budgets

Youth Sports Coordinator, Day Camp Director, Head Teacher, Camp Counselor (1991-1999), Ann Arbor YMCA, Ann Arbor, MI

- Responsible for all sport classes, leagues, tournaments for Ann Arbor YMCA including scheduling, supplies, and selection and management coaches, and referees
- Responsible for all aspects of a summer day camp program including transportation to camp from public school, special parent cookouts and events, staff selection and training, and all aspects of program operations
- Head teacher in a 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 year-old classroom responsible for all curriculum planning and implementation, supervision of assistant teachers and volunteers, and supply/snack ordering
- Summer camp counselor, waterfront director, sailing director, junior counselor, and CIT at a traditional YMCA summer resident camp (ACA accredited Camp Al-Gon-Quian)

Selected University Teaching Experience

Visiting Assistant Professor (August 2012-May 2013), Illinois College, Jacksonville, IL

- Taught PS 275, “Child Development” and PS 101 “Intro Psychology”
- Responsible for the preparation of syllabus, lesson plans, lectures, technology based activities, and all learning evaluations

Adjunct Faculty (August 2011 – May 2012), College of Education, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

- Taught CEP 800, “Psychology of Learning in School and Other Settings” a masters level Educational Psychology course
- Within a common course framework developed and implemented an active and highly participatory class structure focused on learning and development and applications of psychological theory for teachers

Instructor (August 2005 – June 2008, August 2009-May 2010), College of Education, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

- Taught online and face-to face versions of TE 150, “Reflections on Learning,” an introductory Educational Psychology class in the Teacher Education program
- Within a common course framework developed and implemented an active and highly participatory class structure focused on learning and development and applications of psychological theory for teachers

Additional Professional Experience

Selected Presentations, Publications, and Affiliations

Book Chapter

Wojcikiewicz, S., & Mural, Z. (2014). Sailing and the experience of learning: In Goodman, G (Ed.), *Educational psychology reader: the art and science of how people learn* (412-427). New York, NY: Peter Lang

Peer Reviewed Publication

Wojcikiewicz, S., & Mural, Z. (2010). A Deweyian framework for youth development in experiential education: Perspectives from sail training and sailing instruction. *Journal of Experiential Education*. 33, 105-119.

Representative Professional Conference Presentations

- Mural, Z. (2016) Walk the talk: Positive youth development in 2016. Keynote Address at the Northern New England Recreation and Parks Conference. Bartlett, NH, January 2016.
- Mural, Z. (2015) Make me: Understanding what really motivates. Closing Keynote presented at the American Camp Association Northern California Camp Works Conference. Mt. Hermon, CA, April 2015.
- Mural, Z. (2015) There and back again: From school-year programs to summer camp and back again. Training session presented at both The American Camp Association Annual Conference. New Orleans, LA, February 2015 and The American Camp Association Tri-State Conference, Atlantic City, NJ, March 2015.
- Mural, Z. (2014) Walk the Talk: Positive youth development in 2014. Invited Session presented at the Michigan YMCA Leaders Conference. Lansing, Michigan, November 2014.
- Mural, Z. (2014) Getting there together: Everyday skills and strategies for leading staff. Invited Session presented at the Michigan YMCA Leaders Conference. Lansing, Michigan, November 2014.
- Mural, Z. (2012) Tag team: Simple and exciting ways to strengthen your staff team. Training presented at the Annual National Afterschool Association Annual Meeting (NAA). Dallas, Texas, May 2012.
- Mural, Z. (2012) Youth development 2.0: How can we use the latest trends and technologies to foster positive outcomes for youth? Training session presented at the annual Best of Out of School Time Conference (BOOST). Palm Springs, California, April 2012.

Selected Academic Conference Presentations

- Mural, Z. (2012) On Purpose: The relationship between purpose and extracurricular activity participation for first year college students. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). Vancouver, BC, Canada, April 2012
- Wojcikiewicz, S., & Mural, Z. (2009) Dewey goes out-of-school: Looking back for lessons about OST's future. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). San Diego, CA, April 2009

Professional Memberships/Commitments/Service

- Regular columnist for Parks and Rec Business Magazine (PRB)
- National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
- National Afterschool Association (NAA)
- American Camp Association (ACA)

Professional Service

- Volunteer After School Endorser, Council on Accreditation, New York, NY (April 2011 – present)
- School Board Member, The Relevant Academy Charter School, Eaton County, Michigan (November 2010-July 2012)
- Website Manager, Out-Of-School Time Special Interest Group of the American Educational Research Association (2008-2010)

References ***Both Professional and Character References are Available on Request***