

GINA PEPIN, Ed.D.

SUMMARY

Highly accomplished and passionate educator with a Doctorate in Teacher Leadership and extensive experience across K-12 and higher education settings. Proven leader in literacy intervention, program development, and teacher training, recognized as a 2x Michigan Teacher of the Year State Finalist & Regional TOY. Committed to fostering joyful reading experiences and implementing evidence-based literacy practices. Skilled in curriculum design & assessment, professional development, and collaborative leadership.

EDUCATION

- Post-Graduate Certificate: Reading, Literacy, and Assessment
Walden University, 2018
 - Doctorate of Education (Ed.D.): Teacher Leadership
Walden University, 2013
 - M.S., Reading & Literacy K-6
Walden University, 2007
 - B.S., Elementary K-5; Social Studies & Language Arts 6-8
Northern Michigan University, 2001
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K-12 TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Elementary Intervention Teacher Leader/Supervisor of Title 1/31A Team | Escanaba Area Public Schools, Escanaba, MI

- Lemmer Elementary School: 2020-2021; 2021-Present
 - *Lead and supervise a team focused on reading intervention and support programs.*

Elementary Reading Teacher | Escanaba Area Public Schools, Escanaba, MI

- Lemmer & Soo Hill Elementary Schools: 2019-2020
- Lemmer, Soo Hill & Webster Elementary Schools: 2012-2018
 - *Provided specialized reading instruction and support to elementary students.*

3rd Grade Teacher | Soo Hill Elementary School, Escanaba, MI

- 2018-2019

Multiple Teaching Roles | Escanaba Area Public Schools, Escanaba, MI

- 2008-2012

906-399-8979 | drpepin4@gmail.com | [LinkedIn](#) | Personal Website (www.ginapepin.com)

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- *Served in diverse roles including 1st Grade Teacher, K-5 Music Teacher, Technology K-5 Teacher, Middle School Language Arts Teacher, and Middle School Social Studies Teacher.*

Multiple Teaching Roles | Mid Peninsula Schools, Rock, MI

- 2001-2008
 - *1st Grade, K-12 Music, Middle School Language Arts, and Geography.*

K-5 Music & 7-8 Grade Band Teacher | Holy Name Catholic School, Escanaba, MI

- 1998-1999

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

- **Golden Apple Scholar Institute Instructor** | Michigan State Campus
 - Summer 2025
- **Expert Teacher** | UPPERCASE Teach (NNSTOY)
 - See: <https://www.uppercaseteach.com/>
- **Great Start Collaborative** | Great Start Parent Coalitions (GSPC) (Contractual Work)
 - 2016-Present
 - *Developed and facilitated Read and Rise Family Workshops, Summer Literacy Camps, Parent Academies, and Talking is Teaching community book nooks. Served as a Trusted Advisor.*

HIGHER EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

- **Subject Matter Expert (SME) - Course Design Team** | Grand Canyon University
 - REA 460 (M.Ed. Elementary Reading Program Design): 2019
 - 571 Practicum course for New MA in Elementary Reading program: 2025-Present
- **Subject Matter Expert (SME) - Program Design Team** | Grand Canyon University
 - New MA in Elementary Reading program: 2025-Present
 - MA in K-12 Reading: 2025-Present
- **University Supervisor for Teacher Candidates**
 - Grand Canyon University: 2022-Present
 - Northern Michigan University: 2020, 2021-Present
- **Teacher Education Advisory Council (TEAC)** | Northern Michigan University
 - 2020, 2021-Present
- **Contingent Assistant Professor (Online)** | Northern Michigan University
 - M.Ed. Literacy Courses: 2016-Present

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- **Adjunct Online Instructor** | Grand Canyon University
 - M.Ed. Literacy Courses: 2014-Present
- **Dissertation Committee: Content Expert** | Grand Canyon University
 - 2016-Present
- **NMU Masters Thesis Defense Committee** | Northern Michigan University
 - 2019

SCHOLARSHIP & PUBLICATIONS

Contribution Articles

- **3 Ways for Preschoolers to Learn Through Play** (Scholastic Editors).
 - <https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/teaching-tools/articles/lessons/learn-through-play-preschool.html>
- **5 Group Reading Activities for Kids** (Scholastic Editors).
 - <https://www.scholastic.com/parents/books-and-reading/raise-a-reader-blog/reading-activities-kids.html>
- **Scholastic Professional Authors Look Ahead to the New Year** (Co-Authored with Eric Litwin).
 - EduBlog; Scholastic, January 2, 2021.
 - <https://edublog.scholastic.com/post/scholastic-professional-authors-look-ahead-new-year>
- **The Power of Joyful Reading: Help Your Young Readers Soar to Success** (Co-Authored with Eric Litwin).
 - Scholastic, November 2020.
- **3 Fun Ways to Encourage and Praise Your Young Readers** (Co-Authored with Eric Litwin).
 - Scholastic Education - Teaching Tools (Digital Article), October 2020.
 - <https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/teaching-tools/articles/professional-development/3-fun-ways-encourage-praise-young-readers.html>
- **Why the Joyful Reading Approach is Needed Now More Than Ever** (Co-Authored with Eric Litwin).
 - Scholastic Professional EDU Blog; September, 2020.
 - <https://edublog.scholastic.com/post/why-joyful-reading-approach-needed-now-more-ever#.X2VAy1Zn4ag.linkedin>
- **The Power of Read-Alouds in Elementary & Secondary Classes** (Meemic: The Bulletin Board Blog).
 - March 2019.
 - <https://www.meemic.com/why-meemic/about-meemic/blog/mtoy/march-2019/the-power-of-%E2%80%8Bread-alouds-in-elementary-secondary.aspx>
- **Integrating Scholarship into Academic Life as an Adjunct** (Grand Canyon University CIRT Blog).

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- March 2017.
- **Teacher Leadership: Teachers as Literacy Leaders; Chapter 14.**
 - *Literacy Program Evaluation and Development Initiatives for P-12 Teaching* (Lawrence, 2017).
- **Effects of a Language Arts Service-Learning Project on Sixth-Grade Academic Achievement** (Dissertation).
 - 2013.
- **Wildcat Authors Directory** (Northern Michigan University Alumni Association).

PRESENTATIONS, KEYNOTE SPEAKING, & WORKSHOPS

- **Student Centered Instruction: Best Literacy Practices that bring JOY to Reading.**
 - Golden Apple Scholar Institute: Michigan State University Campus; East Lansing, MI. July 21-23, 2025.
- **International Make Music Day! Ride and Read: Rhythm and Rhyme family early literacy and language workshop.**
 - In collaboration with Great Start Collaborative and Escanaba Library; Escanaba, MI. June 21, 2025.
- **Organizing a Service Project from a Spark!**¹
 - Service and Leadership Conference for High School Student Leaders.
Manistique Middle and High School; Manistique, MI. October 21, 2024.²
- **Let's Talk, Teacher to Teacher About the Power of Expertise: How to Fill Your Teaching Toolbox When Evidence-Based Teaching Strategies No Longer Match the Students in Front of You.**³
 - Keynote Speaker & Pr⁴esenter: Virtual. 2024 Nevada State Teacher Leadership Conference for Early Career Teachers (NVSTOY). September 21 & 22, 2024.
- **Ride and Read Program: Professional Training.**
 - Southeastern Michigan Early Childhood Support Network. September 10, 2024.
 - *Description: Create meaningful opportunities for interactive shared language and literacy experiences anywhere you go! This program provides families with engaging texts, activity cards, and storytelling props in a convenient travel tote so that they can build early literacy and language skills through joyful interactions. Knowing the importance of parental involvement in successful student learning, this program strives to provide families with the tools and resources they need to build a strong early language and literacy foundation.*
<https://www.ginapepin.com/blank-14>
- **Uppercase Teach: Panel.**
 - 2024 National Teacher Leadership Conference (NNSTOY); Denver, CO. July 26, 2024.
- **Keynote Speaker: Let's Talk, Teacher to Teacher About the Power of Expertise.**

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- 2024 National Teacher Leadership Conference (NNSTOY); Denver, CO. July 23, 2024.
- *Description: Current student needs are not being met with research and best practices that have been shared before the pandemic. There truly is a need for new approaches, considerations, and research. This workshop guides teacher leaders through interactive and engaging activities that promote the belief that all students can learn. Concepts from the whole child, social emotional learning, trauma informed practices, performance/athletic training, and activities used by school occupational therapists are all integrated into applicable make-and-takes. Learn more about teacher expertise and how it is evident in student success.*
- **Ride and Read Program: Early Literacy Initiative.**
 - United Way Board Presentation. July 15, 2024.
<https://www.ginapepin.com/blank-14>
- **How to Make Instruction Joyful, Engaging, and Motivating.**
 - Virtual Workshop. Grand Rapids Public Schools Elementary Educators Group. April 29, 2024.
- **Early Literacy: Immersion, Engagement, & Optimization - Making EVERY. Single. MINUTE. Count.**
 - Workshop. MiAECY Conference. Grand Rapids; Amway Center. April 19, 2024.
- **Ride and Read Program; Breakfast: Eat and Learn; Make and Takes.**
 - MiAECY Conference. Grand Rapids; Amway Center. April 20, 2024.
- **Contracts & Negotiations.**
 - Virtual. Northern Michigan University - Teacher Candidate Conference. March 15 & 18, 2024.
- **How to Make Instruction Joyful, Engaging, and Motivating.**
 - Workshops Central Michigan University - Teacher Candidate Conference. March 1, 2024.
- **DARTEP Presentation and Panel.**
 - Virtual. Michigan Department of Education; MTLAC Group. February 2, 2024.
- **Michigan Teacher Certification.**
 - Northern Michigan University - Teacher Candidate Conference. December 15, 2023.
- **Contracts & Negotiations.**
 - Virtual. Northern Michigan University - Teacher Candidate Conference. November 13, 2023.
- **How to Make Instruction Joyful, Engaging, and Motivating.**
 - Workshops Central Michigan University - Teacher Candidate Conference. October 13, 2023.
- **MTOY Program Reflections and Moving Forward.**
 - Presentation. Michigan Teacher Leadership Advisory Council Meeting. June 16, 2023.
- **The Power of Joyful Reading.**
 - Guest Speaker (Virtual). Wagner College: Student Candidates & Early Childhood Graduate Students. March 14, 2023.

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- **The Power of Joyful Reading: Help Young Readers Soar to Success.**
 - Webinar. March 17, 2023.
 - *Description: Award-winning authors Eric Litwin and Dr. Gina Pepin will share how to transform your classroom (and school) into a “reading playground”—a space in which children read along to, sing to, dance to, and celebrate words and texts. Dr. Gina will show that when young children are immersed in joyful and engaging shared reading experiences throughout the day, something wonderful happens: Students learn to love books, enjoy reading, and see themselves as readers. This engaging workshop demonstrates and provides ready-to-go joyful reading activities, lessons, songs, and stories that you can put to work in your classrooms and daycare centers right away. It will empower you to immerse all young readers, including your English learners, in joyful and engaging reading experiences throughout the day—and help them build their essential reading foundation. Gather all of your favorites to build ready-to-use “equipment” for your reading playground. Get ready to create your own samples, lessons, and activities to turn your classroom into a reading playground today!*
- **Joyful and Engaging Reading.**
 - Keynote Speaker (Virtual) with Co-Author Eric Litwin. Missouri School Board Association: Spring Meeting. March 1, 2023.
 - *Description: In this highly entertaining presentation Eric Litwin shares the inspiring ideas found in his book The Power of Joyful Reading, Help Your Young Readers Soar to Success (co-written with Gina Pepin). Attendees will learn how to empower their schools and teachers in leading young students to love books and think positively, while at the same time preparing them for successful reading instruction. Eric models this energizing approach while telling his own original Pete the Cat books, as well as The Nuts and Groovy Joe. Attendees are fully engaged and have an unforgettable time. They also walk away with compelling ideas they can put to work in their classrooms the next day.*
- **The Joy of Literacy.**
 - Keynote Speaker Live. South Carolina Association of Title One Administrators: Building a Vision of Success 2022. Myrtle Beach, SC. October 26, 2022.
- **Create a Joyful Reading Playground; Teaching Like a Reading Superhero; Higher Education - The Power of Joyful Reading: Help Your Young Readers Soar to Success.**
 - Workshop Presenter (Virtual). Celebrating Connections 2022- Better Together. West Virginia Early Childhood Training Connections and Resources. River Valley Child Development Services. April 7, 2022 (3 Sessions).
- **Literacy and Academic Language: The Power of Joyful Reading.**
 - (Virtual Workshop). NAECTE 2021: Interdisciplinary and Inclusive Practices in Early Childhood Education and Early Childhood Teacher Education. November 17, 2021.
 - *Description: Award winning authors Eric Litwin and Gina Pepin share how to transform your classroom (and school) into a “reading playground” - a space in which children read along to, sing to, dance to, and celebrate words and texts.*

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They will show that when young children are immersed in joyful and engaging shared reading experiences throughout the day, something wonderful happens. Students learn to love books, enjoy reading, and see themselves as readers. They also gain reading skills and knowledge, which prepares them for reading instruction. Dr. Pepin will discuss the connections between The Joyful Reading Approach, literacy and academic language.

- **The Power of Joyful Reading: Help Young Readers Soar to Success (2020).**
 - On Demand Workshop (Virtual). World Literacy Summit. September 8, 2021.
 - *Description: Dr. Gina gives you what you need to transform your classroom into a "reading playground" a space for children to read along, sing to, dance to, and celebrate words and texts. A space in which they experience the power of joyful reading.*
- **Great Start Collaborative Family Literacy Play & Learn Summer Sessions.**
 - Talking is Teaching; Sing! Read! Talk! VanCleve Park, Rapid River Park, Besse Park Escanaba, MI. June 30, July 28 & August 18, 2021.
- **The Power of Joyful Reading: Help Young Readers Soar to Success (2020).**
 - Keynote Speaker (Virtual) with Co-Author Eric Litwin. Region 10 Now4Forever Conference, Texas. July 13, 2021.
- **The Power of Joyful Reading: Help Young Readers Soar to Success (2020).**
 - Workshop Presenter - Teach Like a Reading Superhero & Create a Reading Playground (Virtual). Region 10 Now4Forever Conference, Texas. July 13 & 14, 2021.
- **The Power of Joyful Reading: Help Young Readers Soar to Success (2020).**
 - Keynote Speaker (Virtual) with Co-Author Eric Litwin. Georgia Preschool Association Spring Conference. March 6, 2021.
- **Transforming Your Classroom Into a Reading Playground; Cultivating Reading Lovers by Creating Joyful Reading Experiences.**
 - (Webinar). Presented with Co-Author Eric Litwin. February 1, 2021.
 - *Description: Bring Me A Book Hong Kong is pleased to partner with HKEdCity to organize a professional development training webinar on 2 Feb 2021 (Tuesday). Renowned authors Eric Litwin and Gina Pepin will share how to transform your classroom into a 'reading playground' with suitable teaching activities, empowering students to experience the joy of reading.*
- **The Power of Joyful Reading: Help Young Readers Soar to Success (2020).**
 - Keynote Speaker with Co-Author Eric Litwin. 35th Annual Harris County Department of Education Early Childhood Winter Conference. January 30, 2021.
- **The Power of Joyful Reading: Help Your Young Readers Soar to Success. Professional Development-Full Day (Virtual) Part II-Application.**
 - Presented with Co-Author Eric Litwin. Laredo, TX. January 4, 2021.
 - *Filling Your Joyful Reading Teacher Toolbox. Description: Award-winning authors Eric Litwin and Gina Pepin lead a follow-up interactive book study on The Power of Joyful Reading: Help Your Young Readers Soar to Success! This entertaining return engagement will build on the skills and knowledge learned in the first workshop. It will focus on demonstrating and providing ready-to-go joyful reading*

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activities, lessons, songs, and stories that you can put to work in your classrooms right away. It will empower you to immerse all young readers, including your English Learners, in joyful and engaging reading experiences throughout the day—and help them build their essential reading foundation.

- **The Power of Joyful Reading: Help Your Young Readers Soar to Success. Professional Development (Virtual).**
 - Presented with Co-Author Eric Litwin. Plano, TX - Region 10 Early Childhood Educators and Librarians. November 3, 2020.
 - *Description: Immersing early childhood students in joyful and engaging reading experiences throughout the day provides the needed reading foundation for children to love books, enjoy reading and see themselves as readers.*
- **Little Learners Reading Program. Family Literacy Workshops.**
 - Great Start Collaborative- Virtual and Face-to-Face; Delta & Schoolcraft counties, MI. August 4-13; September 24-October 10; November 10-24, 2020.
 - *Description: Two-week sessions provide opportunities for families to Learn, Discuss, & Engage: Watch customized videos to learn how to nurture essential literacy skills; Online Parent, Peer-to-Peer Discussions; and Fun hands-on family activities let you practice new skills and materials. Program focuses on: Sensational Skills Building, Joyful Shared Reading Experiences using the programs Read and Rise & Talking is Teaching.*
- **The Power of Joyful Reading: Help Young Readers Soar to Success (2020).**
 - International Literacy Association NEXT Conference. (Virtual). Presented with Co-Author Eric Litwin. Professional Interactive Learning - Learning Labs. October 17, 2020.
 - <https://www.literacyworldwide.org/ila-next/program/learning-labs#saturday-october-10>
- **Early Childhood: Starting School on a Joyful Note. Webinar (Scholastic Education).**
 - Presented with Co-Author Eric Litwin. August 12, 2020.
 - *Description: Joyful reading experiences can empower teachers and students by supporting their social and emotional needs. Interweaving joyful shared reading experiences into your daily routines, activities, and lessons throughout the day provides opportunities for students to love books, enjoy reading, and see themselves as readers.*
 - <http://teacher.scholastic.com/education/webinars.htm?webinar=6180798552001>.
- **The Power of Joyful Reading: Help Young Readers Soar to Success (2020).**
 - Scholastic Webinar/Presentation Internal. Presented with Co-Author Eric Litwin. For Jimmy Brehm, Vice President of Academic Planning & Solution Development Scholastic Education, and Team. August 20, 2020.
 - *Description: Customizing solutions for district partners.*
- **The Power of Joyful Reading: Help Young Readers Soar to Success (2020).**
 - Keynote Speaker with Co-Author Eric Litwin. Early Childhood Department of Calcasieu Parish - Lake Charles, LA (Virtual). August 19, 2020.
 - *Description: When young children are immersed in joyful and engaging shared reading experiences throughout the day, something wonderful happens. They*

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learn to love books, enjoy reading, and see themselves as readers. They also gain reading skills and knowledge, which prepares them for reading instruction.

- **The Power of Joyful Reading: Help Young Readers Soar to Success (2020).**
 - Scholastic Webinar/Presentation Internal. Presented with Co-Author Eric Litwin. Sales Representatives, Account Executives and Dealer/Trade Representatives. August 2020.
 - *Description: Provided background, framework, and workshops that can be offered.*
- **The Power of Joyful Reading: Help Young Readers Soar to Success.**
 - Keynote Co-Speaker and Workshop Breakout Session. Presented with Co-Author Eric Litwin. Laredo Independent School District Early Childhood Program (LISD) Texas Region One: Early Childhood Symposium (Virtual). July 14, 2020.
 - <https://www.esc1.net/Page/4031>.
 - *Keynote: The Power of Joyful Reading. Description: When young children are immersed in joyful and engaging shared reading experiences throughout the day, something wonderful happens. They learn to love books, enjoy reading, and see themselves as readers. They also gain reading skills and knowledge, which prepares them for reading instruction. Joyful reading gives you what you need to transform your classroom into a "reading playground" - a space in which children read along to, sing to, dance to, and celebrate words and texts in this interactive presentation.*
 - *Workshop Breakout Session: Teaching Like a Reading SuperHERO. Description: This workshop explores how to put the ideas in The Power of Joyful Reading to work in your classroom. Learn simple to use shared reading techniques to help your student develop their basic reading skills and knowledge and lead them to love books, enjoy reading, and see themselves as readers! Eric and Dr. Gina demonstrate how to interweave these experiences into your daily routines, activities, and lessons throughout the day, day after day, all year long, even in our virtual classroom. Over time these little changes have big reading outcomes.*
- **Read and Rise Family Literacy Workshop.**
 - Webster Kindergarten Center; Escanaba, MI. Great Start Collaborative. January 2020.
- **Looking at the Whole Child-Difficulty or Disability? The Importance of Exploring All Variables (Part 1 & 2).**
 - Upper Michigan Special Education Conference - Workshop Northern Michigan University; Marquette, MI. October 2019.
- **The Impact of Vision on Reading and Learning.**
 - NMU/MARESA Summer Institute for Educators: Professional Learning 2-Day Course Co-Presenter with Dr. Heidi Johnson, OD, FCOVD. June 2019.
- **Examining the Struggling Student: The Impact of Vision on Reading and Learning.**
 - Upper Peninsula Doctors of Optometry Conference – Professional Learning. Co-Presenter with Dr. Heidi Johnson, OD, FCOVD Bay De Noc Community College; Escanaba, MI. May 2019.

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- **Michigan's 3rd Grade Reading Law and What it Means for Your Children.**
 - Presentation and Discussion; Delta County Great Start Parent Coalition. February 2018.
 - *Description: Continuation of Topic - Early Literacy: Why It's Important & What You Can Do To Help Your Child Be and Stay on Track.*
- **Panel Presentation for Early Childhood & Literacy.**
 - Michigan Teacher Leadership Advisory Council (MiTLAC) Michigan Department of Education. Lansing, MI. February 2018.
- **Read and Rise Family Literacy Workshop.**
 - OSF Hospital; Escanaba, MI. Great Start Collaborative. October 2018.
- **Family Night Fun- Family Literacy Program.**
 - Great Start Collaborative. Bay De Noc Community College Library; Escanaba, MI. October 2017.
- **Chalk Talk - An Unconference. An Informal Evening of Storytelling, Performance, & Discussion on Early Literacy & Multi-learning Approaches.**
 - Hosted by Eric Litwin and Dr. Gina Pepin. William Bonifas Art Center; Escanaba, MI. May 2017.
- **Honorary Keynote Speaker at Educator's Rising Induction Ceremony.**
 - Delta Schoolcraft Intermediate School District; Escanaba, MI. September 2016.

AWARDS AND HONORS

- **Region 1 - Michigan Teacher of the Year and State Finalist**
 - 2023-2024
 - 2018-2019
- **Literacy Champion**
 - Bring Me a Book - Literacy Advocacy Toolkit. With Eric Litwin. The Power of Joyful Reading. <https://www.bringmeabook.org/advocates/gina-pepin/>
- **Scholastic LitCamp Summer Series - Featured as 1 of 7 Strengths (Hope)**
 - Video Interview with co-author Eric Litwin and Dr. Ernest Morrell, Summer 2020. (Related to "The Power of Joyful Reading: Help Young Readers Soar to Success" (Litwin & Pepin, 2020)).
- **Nomination: Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation (AAQEP)**
 - Teacher Representative: Board Member & Commissioner. Nominated by Dr. Joseph Lubig, Associate Dean & Director of the School of Education, Leadership and Public Service; Northern Michigan University. 2018-Present.

ACADEMIC CONFERENCES - PANELIST

- **DARTEP Panel.**
 - Virtual. Michigan Department of Education; MTLAC Group. February 2, 2024.

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- **Michigan Education Policy Fellowship Program (EPFP Panel).**
 - Teacher Preparation in the New Normal Today - Higher Education; Rural Education Needs - K-12. March 8, 2021.
- **Rural Education: Teaching and learning in rural school settings.**
 - Marquette Branch of the American Association of University Women - Panel Member. February 11, 2021.
- **AAQEP Quality Assurance Symposium- Virtual. Presenter. School Needs Now & Teacher Preparation Now.**
 - Co-presented with Dr. Doretha Allen. February 23-25, 2021.
 - *Description: In the immediate aftermath of school shutdowns due to COVID 19, schools have a new set of needs. Teacher preparation programs have had to respond to the shifts in real time practices. This session reflects the presenters' experiences as parent, teacher, central staff, and university professor.*
 - **Accreditation Commission Panel Discussion.**
 - Panel: Dr. Sylvia Read, Dr. Virginia Goatley, Dr. Joe Lubig, Dr. Rebecca Pelton, Dr. Deborah Rickey.
 - *Overview of AAQEP's principles and standards supported by a conversation with a panel of leaders representing the Board of Directors, Accreditation Commission, and Quality Review Team members to discuss the accreditation process and its context.*
- **AAQEP Panel Presentations. Quality Assurance Symposium.**
 - Georgia Tech University; Atlanta, GA. February 27, 2020.
 - **Refreshing the Accreditation Conversation: New Rules, New Roles.**
 - Panelists: Fritz Erickson, Northern Michigan University; Rebecca Pelton, Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education; Tom Bordenkircher, Higher Learning Commission; Gina Pepin, Escanaba Area Public Schools.
 - *Discussion with AAQEP Board members on new directions from unique roles and perspectives.*
 - **Meet the Accreditation Commission: Overview of the Decision-Making Process.**
 - Panelists: Joe Lubig, Northern Michigan University; Virginia Goatley, University at Albany; Rebecca Pelton, Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education; Gina Pepin, Escanaba Area Public Schools; Deborah Rickey, Grand Canyon University; Sylvia Read, Utah State University.
 - *Overview of Accreditation Commission processes, typical agenda, EPP role, discussion areas, and accreditation notations.*

ACADEMIC VOLUNTEER SERVICE

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- **Delta County Communities That Care**
 - Board of Directors. 2024-Present.
- **United Way Delta County**
 - Vice President Elect 2025-Present.
 - Board of Directors. 2024-Present.
 - School Readiness Sub Committee. 2024-Present.
- **Michigan Teacher Leadership Advisory Council (MiTLAC)** | Michigan Department of Education
 - 2017-2018; 2018-2019 & 2023-2034.
- **Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation (AAQEP)**
 - 2019-Present
 - Commissioner, Board of Directors Member, Nominating Committee, Governance Committee, Rotation Chair.
- **Michigan Dyslexia Handbook: A Guide to Literacy Acquisition and Accelerating Outcomes.**
 - Michigan Department of Education. 2022.
- **MiCIP: Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process Team** | Lemmer Elementary School
 - 2021-Present.
- **Leader in Me Lighthouse Team** | Escanaba Area Schools
 - 2018-Present.
- **Michigan Department of Education Diversity & Equity in the Educator Workforce Advisory Group**
 - 2021.
- **The Next Page Book Project.**
 - 2021. (150 authors).
- **Editorial Review Board Member** | *Michigan Reading Journal*
 - 2018-Present.
- **Peer reviewer** | International Literacy Association: *The Reading Teacher*.
- **Michigan Model Competency-Based Education Workgroup** | Michigan Department of Education
 - 2019-Present.
- **Standards for the Preparation of Teachers in Professional Knowledge and Skills, English Language Arts, and Mathematics in Middle Grades (5-9) and High School (7-12) Workgroup** | Michigan Department of Education
 - 2019-2020.
- **Survey Item Development Committee: Teacher Candidate, Principal, K-12 Cooperating Teacher, Candidate Supervisor, & Year Out Surveys** | Michigan Department of Education
 - 2019-2020.
- **Teacher Leadership Framework Design Workgroup** | Michigan Department of Education
 - Michigan Teacher Leadership Advisory Council. Teach to Lead Summit. Governor's Education and Talent Summit. Novi, MI. April 2018.

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- **Michigan Early Literacy Assessment Team; Aligning Assessment tools for 1280f & PA306** | Michigan Department of Education
 - 2017-2019.
- **Focus Group Regional Leader: Michigan MiLit Plan & Early Childhood Framework** | Michigan Department of Education
 - 2017-2018.
- **Chair – Careers in Education** | Delta Schoolcraft Intermediate Schools. Advisory Council.
 - 2017-2018 and 2018-2019.
- **Careers in Education Practicum Placement Partnership; Educator's Rising Chapter. Leader in Me; Enrichment Leadership Program** | Lemmer Elementary School; Escanaba, MI.
 - 2016-2017.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- **Ride and Read** | www.ginapepin.com
 - Early Literacy and Language program for families, caregivers, organizations, and educators.
- **Podcast Host, “[Let's Talk, Teacher to Teacher](#)”**
 - 2023–Present
 - *Develop and host a podcast focused on literacy education, interviewing experts and sharing best practices for teachers and reading specialists. Produce and edit episodes for educators nationally.*

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS/MEMBERSHIP

- Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation (AAQEP)
- International Literacy Association (ILA)
- Michigan Association for the Education of Young Children (MiAEYC)
- Michigan Education Association (MEA)
- Michigan Reading Association (MRA)
- National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
- National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)
- National Education Association (NEA)
- National Network of State Teachers of the Year (NNSTOY)