National Council on Teacher Retirement
96th Annual Conference: **Pensions, Politics & People**
October 7–9, 2018
The Mayflower Hotel, 1127 Connecticut Ave., NW, Washington, D.C., 20036

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Monday Speakers

Madelyn Pavlic, Consultant Relations and Business Development, William Blair

Madelyn Pavlic is responsible for consultant relations and business development for William Blair Investment Management. She covers the Eastern region of the United States. Madelyn joined William Blair in 2010, and spent three years as a database analyst supporting William Blair's institutional marketing efforts before joining William Blair's business development team in 2013. Previously, she was a research associate for Kennedy Capital Management. Madelyn serves on the CFA Society of Chicago Women's Network, and is a member of the CFA institute and CFA Society of Chicago. She is also an active volunteer, associate board member, and mentor chair for the Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund. She received a B.S. in finance from Saint Louis University's John Cook School of Business.

Donna Brazile

Donna Brazile is the former Chair of the Democratic National Committee and fellow at Harvard's Kennedy School Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy. Ms. Brazile has been a contributor to ABC News and CNN and has worked on every presidential campaign since 1976. In 2000 she became the first African American to serve as campaign manager for former Vice President Al Gore.

Ms. Brazile has worked passionately in the rebuilding and recovery efforts in her beloved hometown of New Orleans. Additionally, she loves working with young people, encouraging them to vote, to run for office, and to work within the system to strengthen it. Since 2000, Ms. Brazile has lectured at over 200 colleges and universities across the country on such topics as "Inspiring Civility in American Politics," "Race Relations in the Age of Obama," "Why Diversity Matters," and "Women in American Politics."

She first got involved in politics at the age of nine when she worked to elect a City Council candidate who had promised to build a playground in her neighborhood; the candidate won, the swing set was installed, and a lifelong passion for political progress was ignited. That led eventually to Ms. Brazile's work on every presidential campaign from 1976 through 2000, when she became the first African-American to manage a presidential campaign.

In addition to her work an adjunct professor at Georgetown University, Ms. Brazile is the best-selling author of Hacks: The Inside Story of the Break-ins and Breakdowns That Put Donald Trump in the White House, as well as the best-selling memoir Cooking with Grease: Stirring the Pots in American Politics . She is especially pleased to have made three cameo appearances on CBS's The Good Wife , and two cameo appearances on Netflix's series

House of Cards . She most recently appeared on BET's Being Mary Jane . Ask her and she'll tell you that acting, after all, is the key to success in politics.

In 2013, Ms. Brazile was appointed by President Obama to serve on to the board of the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. She is also proud the recipient of more than 10 honorary doctorate degrees from major colleges and universities, including her alma mater Louisiana State University.

In August 2009, O, The Oprah Magazine chose Ms. Brazile as one of its 20 "remarkable visionaries" for the magazine's first-ever O Power List. In addition, she was named among the 100 Most Powerful Women by Washingtonian magazine, Top 50 Women in America by Essence magazine, and received the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's highest award for political achievement. In 2016, Ms. Brazile was awarded Wonk of the Year from the Kennedy Political Union at American University.

Ms. Brazile is the founder and director of Brazile & Associates LLC, a general consulting, grassroots advocacy, and training firm based in Washington, DC. She is also an adjunct faculty member at Georgetown University. Last but never least, she is a proud native of New Orleans, Louisiana. In the aftermath of the two catastrophic hurricanes that made landfall in the Gulf region, Ms. Brazile was appointed by former Governor Kathleen Blanco to serve on the Louisiana Recovery Board to work for the rebuilding of the state and to advocate for the Gulf recovery on the national stage. Ms. Brazile was also appointed by New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu to serve on the Tricentennial Commission. Donna Brazile has spent a lifetime working for progressive change, responsible governance, and the advancement of all people in a society that is fair and equitable.

Michael Reid, Vice President, CEM

Michael Reid is a Vice President at CEM with client relationship responsibility for several clients in each of CEM's services. Prior to joining CEM in 2017, Michael had a 16-year career in a wide range of roles within the pension industry most recently as a Managing Director at Manulife Asset Management where he worked with institutional investors in developing liability driven and real asset investment strategies. Michael spent the first 10 years of his career as a pension actuary and consultant in progressive roles at Towers Perrin and Mercer after which Michael joined Manulife where he headed the internal pension team with responsibility for the end to end governance of Manulife's global internal pension arrangements. Michael served as a member of Manulife's U.S. Pension and 401k investment committee and was secretary to Manulife's Canadian and US pension committees. Michael holds an HBSc in Statistics and Actuarial Science from the University of Western Ontario.

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Joyce Augustus-Vonken, Marketing Intelligence Specialist, APG

Joyce Augustus is a marketing intelligence specialist at APG; pension provider in the Netherlands providing services as executive consultancy, asset management, pension administration, pension communication and employer services to, and on behalf of several pension funds.

As a marketing intelligence specialist, she performs research to find out about plan member satisfaction, needs and wants with respect to the pension funds' service. Next to that she performs research to find out how we can engage plan members to think about their pension, and to make pension choices.

Her areas of expertise are behavioral and neuromarketing, personas & segmentation and data science.

Before she started working as an intelligence specialist at APG she was a lecturer for several years at the University of Maastricht, teaching various marketing and research courses. She also finished her studies: International Business, Strategic Marketing at Maastricht University

Destrian Wells, Strategic Relationship Manager, AVP

Destrian Wells is a member of the strategic relations group, responsible for developing relationships and enhancing the understanding of the firm's product solutions among key retail distribution partners. Prior to his current role, Wells worked with the team as an Associate Relationship Manager from 2013 to 2016, where he was responsible for aiding in the development of relationship strategy, strategic partnerships, client leadership and quality control. Prior to that Wells served as a strategic relationship analyst from 2011 to 2013, where he was responsible for ensuring operational efficiency, project management, and providing analysis on key distribution relationships. Prior to that, Wells served as project manager for the firm's third party distribution management team from 2010 to 2011, where he was responsible for budget and expense management, assisting the management team with implementation of strategic goals, objectives, and productivity analysis. Prior to joining Macquarie Investment Management (MIM), which includes the former Delaware Investments, he participated in Lincoln Financial Group's rotational Professional Development Program. Wells earned dual bachelor's degrees finance and sales & marketing from Tuskegee University.

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Dr. Ajamu Loving, Assistant Professor of Finance, University of North Texas

Dr. Ajamu "A.J." Loving currently holds the position of Assistant Professor of Finance at the University of North Texas at Dallas. Previously, he held the position of Director of Academic Partnerships and Assistant Professor of Financial Planning at The American College. He has published articles in *The Review of Black Political Economy*, *The Journal of Housing* and *The Built Environment*, and *GSTF Business Review*. His research focuses primarily on wealth building in minority populations. Before academia, Dr. Loving was a financial consultant at LaSalle Bank (now Bank of America) in Chicago, IL.

Diane Oakley, Executive Director, NIRS

In January 2011, Diane Oakley was named executive director of the National Institute on Retirement Security. With the Board of Directors, Oakley leads the organization's strategic planning, research, and education initiatives.

Before joining NIRS, Ms. Oakley served as senior policy advisor to Congressman Earl Pomeroy, who represented the state of North Dakota. There, she worked in a bi-partisan fashion with diverse groups to achieve policy solutions. Oakley played a key staff role in formulating legislative strategy on a range of tax, pension, Social Security, financial services, and workforce issues.

Prior to her service on Capitol Hill, Ms. Oakley held leadership positions with TIAA-CREF, a leading financial services provider. During her 28-year tenure with the organization, she held a number of management, public policy, and technical positions, including vice president for special consulting services and vice president for associations and government relations.

She holds a B.S. in Mathematics from Fairfield University, where she graduated Cum Laude. She earned an M.B.A. in Finance from Fordham University. She is a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance.

PENSIONS, POLITICS & PEOPLE

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96TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
WASHINGTON D.C.

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Monday Speakers

Kevin Fetzer, CFA, Partner, William Blair

Kevin Fetzer is responsible for consultant relations and institutional business development at William Blair Investment Management. He covers the Midwest and Southeast regions of the United States. Before joining the firm in 2010, Kevin was a client relationship manager and consultant relations associate at UBS Global Asset Management. He began his career as a commercial credit analyst for Regions Financial. Kevin serves as an advisory group member for the CFA Society of Chicago, and is a member of the CFA Institute and CFA Society of Chicago. He is also an active volunteer for Imerman's Angels, a cancer support network. Kevin received a B.S. in finance from Florida State University and an M.B.A. with a concentration in investment management from DePaul University's Kellstadt Graduate School of Business.

Kristen Doyle, CFA, Partner, Aon

Kristen is a Partner within AHIC, leads the firm's public sector business as the Public Fund Client Practice Leader, and is a member of the firm's client advisory group. She is located in Chicago, Illinois. As the public sector business lead, Kristen is responsible for new business development and ensuring that AHIC has the right resources, research, and expertise available for the public sector. She also works directly with clients and currently works with eight retainer consulting clients, where she is either the lead or co-lead. These clients range from $200 million to $400 billion in assets under management and are primarily public pension plans and foundations/endowments. She is responsible for assisting these plans with asset allocation advice, risk budgeting, asset/liability reviews, investment policy development, benchmarking, manager selection and structure, and asset class structure. She is also responsible for reporting and monitoring the investment programs and has been instrumental in structuring public fund performance reports for staff and the board as well as other reports such as risk exposure reporting for both traditional and alternative asset classes and risk management reporting.

Kristen previously led the trust services team in the U.S. focused on custody, securities lending, and transition management. This team also supports the firm in other areas that include foreign exchange, transaction cost analysis, and commission recapture. The team assists clients with searching for vendors in these three areas, structuring a custody or securities lending relationship, and assessing the risks associated with these programs from an operational perspective. With regard to transition management, Kristen was also previously the global

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head of transition management, responsible for managing the transition management research and implementation team in the U.S., UK, and Canada.

In 2014, Kristen was awarded The Rising Stars of the Profession 35 Under 35 Award by Consulting Magazine and in 2016, was named to the list of Knowledge Brokers: New Guard published by AiCIO Magazine, which recognizes five star consultants that will transform their firms and industry in the next five years. Prior to joining the firm in 2005, Kristen worked at Northern Trust in the custodial operations group for more than two years. She has a Bachelor of Arts in economics from Denison University. She is a CFA charterholder and member of CFA Institute and the CFA Society of Chicago

Jeff Meeker, Chief Client Officer, Hamilton Lane Advisors

Jeff is Chief Client Officer at Hamilton Lane, where he is responsible for the Relationship Management and Client Service teams. Jeff is also an Investment Committee member.

Jeff began his career at Hamilton Lane in 2005, and previously led the Business Development and Product Management Groups, where he was responsible for the firm's new business efforts. Prior to joining Hamilton Lane, Jeff was a Vice President at Goldman Sachs in the Private Wealth Management group, where he managed investments for high net worth individuals and families. Previously, Jeff spent time in sales and marketing roles with The Perrier Group of America, Dr. Pepper/Seven Up, and Information Resources, Inc.

Jeff received an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago's Graduate School of Business and a B.A. from the University of Delaware. He is a Chartered Financial Analyst and a member of the CFA Society of Philadelphia.

Brady O'Connell, CFA, Sr. Vice President, Callan

Brady O'Connell, CFA, CAIA, is a Senior Vice President in Callan's Chicago Fund Sponsor Consulting office. Brady has consulted with a variety of fund sponsor clients including corporate and public defined benefit plans, defined contribution plans, and endowments and foundations. He is a member of Callan's Client Policy Review, Alternatives Review and Institute Advisory Committees.

Brady has 20 years of investment consulting experience. Prior to joining Callan, Brady was a partner with Aon Hewitt where he worked with a broad range of institutional investors. During his 18 years at Ennis, Knupp + Associates and subsequently, Aon Hewitt, Brady held a number of different roles, including leading public market manager research as well as managing a team of consulting professionals.

Brady received his MBA in Finance and Marketing from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management. He earned a BBA in Finance from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He is a holder of the right to use the Chartered Financial Analyst® designation and is a member of the CFA Society of Chicago and CFA Institute. Brady has also earned the right to use the CAIA designation.

Ronald D. Schmitz, Chief Investment Officer, Virginia Retirement System

As Chief Investment Officer for the Virginia Retirement System, Ron Schmitz manages and oversees the investment program for the $78 billion fund that serves approximately 650,000 active members, retirees and beneficiaries.

Before coming to VRS, Schmitz was responsible for the investment of all funds for the Oregon Public Employees Retirement Fund, the State Accident Insurance Fund and the cash management account for state and local governments.

In addition, Schmitz served for over four years as the Chief Investment Officer of the Illinois State Board of Investment. At Illinois, he was responsible for asset allocation, manager selection, performance evaluation as well as the management of an internal fixed income portfolio.

Before his public fund experience with Illinois, he worked for Illinois-based Kraft Foods, where he got his start in fund management in 1982; Sears Roebuck & Co. where he served on the Chief Financial Officer's staff as an industry expert on pension fund management activities as well as employee benefits and executive compensation; and at Blue Cross & Blue Shield Association where he was Managing Director for a decade.

Schmitz holds a Master of Business Administration in finance and marketing from Northwestern University and a Bachelor's degree in finance from Western Illinois University.

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Monday Speakers

Alfred Campos, Director, NRTA/AARP's Educator Community

Alfred Campos is the Director for the National Retired Teachers Association (NRTA): AARP's Educator Community. NRTA is a division of AARP and is the nation's largest organization serving the interests of retired educators. He leads NRTA's strategic direction, management, advocacy, and community engagement dedicated to the priorities of individuals age 50-plus and their families. Moreover, he serves as NRTA's national spokesperson representing 850,000 members nationwide.

Before joining NRTA, Mr. Campos was a lobbyist in the Government Relations Department of the National Education Association (NEA). He was responsible for advancing NEA's interests concerning federal legislative and regulatory issues concerning taxation, pensions, Social Security, Medicare/Medicaid, health care, and school finance. He was also NEA's legislative liaison to the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and a trustee to the Employees' Retirement Plan of the National Education Association.

Mr. Campos worked for the Financial Planning Association as Counsel and Assistant Director of Government Relations. He began his political career as Legislative Counsel for Representative Sheila Jackson Lee (D-Tex.) and as a Legislative Assistant for former Senator Charles S. Robb (D-Va.). He also practiced law as an attorney for the law firm of Porter, Wright, Morris and Arthur LLP and was a senior insurance underwriter for the Chubb Corporation, a multinational insurance company.

Mr. Campos holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the State University of New York at Albany and a Juris Doctor from Western New England College School of Law. He is a member of the US Supreme Court, District of Columbia, and Connecticut Bars. In addition, Mr. Campos serves on the National Council on Teacher Retirement (NCTR) Corporate Advisory Committee, the National Institute on Retirement Security (NIRS) Visionary Circle, and is an Aspen Institute Socrates Society Scholar.

Todd Green, Actuary, Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, LLC

Todd Green is a Principal and Consulting Actuary of Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, LLC with 21 years of experience. He has a broad range of experience providing actuarial services to both pension and post-retirement medical plans for State and municipal government retirement systems. He is an Associate of the Society of Actuaries, Member of the American Academy of Actuaries and a Fellow of the Conference of Consulting Actuaries. Todd has a B.S. in Mathematics with a Concentration in Actuarial Science from Georgia State University.

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Bill Hallmark, ASA, FCA, MAAA, EA Consulting Actuary, Cheiron

Bill Hallmark, a nationally respected public sector retirement consultant, joined Cheiron in September, 2009, opening Cheiron's office in Portland, Oregon. Bill has more than 30 years of actuarial experience providing consulting services for all types of retirement programs. He specializes in the financial management of retirement programs, defined benefit, defined contribution and retiree medical plan design, financial accounting requirements, funding requirements, and retirement valuations.

Bill has served as Vice President of Pensions for the American Academy of Actuaries (2015 - 2017) after having been chair of the Public Plans Subcommittee for the prior four years and vice-chair of the Pension Practice Council the prior two years. He also serves on the Board and Executive Committee of the Academy as well as the steering committee for the Public Plan Community of the Conference of Consulting Actuaries. Bill was a member of GASB's Pension Accounting and Financial Reporting Implementation Guide Advisory Committee for Statements 67 and 68. He is a frequent speaker at conferences on public pension topics including principles of funding, risk metrics, disclosures, and financial reporting.

Prior to joining Cheiron, Bill was a Principal for Mercer where he led its west unit center of expertise for public sector retirement system consulting located in Portland and was the lead actuary for the Oregon Public Employees Retirement System.

Bill also developed intellectual capital for Mercer's consulting to public sector clients, including a framework for analyzing funding strategies for previously unfunded OPEB obligations, hybrid retirement system designs, and managing risk in public sector retirement systems. He co-authored a paper for the Society of Actuaries Retirement 20/20 Conference entitled "New Retirement Designs for the 21st Century," and a paper for the Society of Actuaries Public Pension Finance Symposium entitled "How Much Investment Risk Can a Government Sponsored Pension Plan Afford?"

Bill is an Associate of the Society of Actuaries, an Enrolled Actuary under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), a Fellow of the Conference of Consulting Actuaries and a member of the American Academy of Actuaries.

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Joseph Newton, Pension Market Leader & Actuary, GRS Consulting

Joe Newton is a nationally recognized public sector actuary who works with numerous statewide, regional, and local retirement systems and is located in GRS' Dallas, Texas office. He has more than 15 years of actuarial and benefits consulting experience. Joe's clients are located in Colorado, Hawaii, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Washington, Wyoming, and Texas.

Joe is the Pension Market Leader for GRS. In this capacity, Joe functions in one of the most senior professional roles in GRS, providing significant firm-wide leadership and contribution at the highest levels. This role bridges the gap between industry requirements, internal processes, and client deliverables to further strengthen GRS' position in the marketplace.

Joe's consulting experience covers actuarial valuation, benefit and cost studies, and experience studies. He is especially adept at developing innovative funding solutions using cutting-edge projection technology. He has been instrumental in GRS' internal development of several technical projects, including the development of GRS's Experience Study and Gain/(Loss) software programs, as well as the multiple-employer GRID, which are unmatched in the industry. Joe is a leader in the development of production techniques and in designing applications that add value to GRS clients.

Joe stresses a top-down approach to pension plan consulting, which integrates the major goals of stakeholders, addresses human capital needs, and utilizes projection and valuation techniques that manage risk. He has built an enviable reputation in the public sector actuarial community for his creative ability to communicate difficult and complex ideas to Boards and Stakeholders. Most importantly, Joe believes he has helped its clients increase their credibility with the legislative and executive branches of the state government. In many cases, we have annual educational sessions for legislative leaders are of paramount importance in establishing and maintaining this credibility.

Ron Baker, Executive Director, Colorado PERA

Ron Baker became the Interim Executive Director for the Public Employees' Retirement Association of Colorado (PERA) in December 2017. In this capacity, he is responsible for PERA's operations, as well as the execution of PERA's strategy implementation. He has been a member and active contributor to PERA's executive leadership team since 2009.

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Mr. Baker started his professional career as a computer programmer at Columbine Systems in Golden, Colorado. In 1994, he joined PERA as Senior Programmer Analyst. Mr. Baker served as an Application Development Manager from 1999, until his appointment as the Director of the Application Development Division in 2007. In 2009, he was promoted to Chief Technology Officer. Within this role, Mr. Baker led the implementation of the merger of the Denver Public Schools Retirement System (DPSRS) into PERA in 2009/2010. Mr. Baker was appointed to Chief Administrative Officer in 2013.

In his role as Chief Administrative Officer, Mr. Baker lead the implementation of PERA Board's Strategic Initiatives, as well as oversaw over 70 PERA employees. He managed PERA's Application Development, Information Technology, Human Resources, Operations Support, Project Management, and Property Management divisions. Mr. Baker was elected to the Board of Directors for the Council of Institutional Investors (CII) in March 2018.

Mr. Baker is a graduate of the University of Northern Colorado with a degree in mathematics, with a dual emphasis in computer science and liberal arts mathematics. He is a graduate of the Executive Leadership Program at the Daniels College of Business at the University of Denver.

Audra Ferguson-Allen, Partner, Ice Miller LLP

Audra Ferguson-Allen is a partner at the law firm Ice Miller LLP where she has practiced law for the past ten years. Audra concentrates her practice on employee benefits law as it relates to governmental employers, ranging from state governments, municipalities, tribal governments, and other public entities. Her practice includes work on a variety of issues for governmental retirement plans, including plan design, administration, IRS compliance, and benefit taxation. Audra enjoys working with clients on a variety of types of plans, such as qualified defined benefit and defined contribution plans, governmental 457(b) deferred compensation plans, and 403(b) plans. When not at the office, Audra enjoys spending time outside with her husband and two young boys.

Ian Lanoff, Principal, Groom Law

Ian Lanoff represents public employee pension and welfare benefit plans, corporate plans, multiemployer plans, institutions that provide investment advice and services to employee benefit plans, and labor unions and corporations that sponsor plans.

Ian is fiduciary counsel to several major public employee pension funds including the New York State Employees Retirement System (“Common Fund”), Florida State Board of Administration, Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, New Hampshire Retirement System, and the State of New Mexico Educational Retirement Board.

Ian’s other representative clients include the UAW Retiree Medical Benefits Trust (the largest retiree healthcare fund at $80 billion as well as three additional retiree health VEBA trusts negotiated by the United Auto Workers). He has also represented the City of Philadelphia Municipal Pension System, Texas Teacher Retirement System, and the California State Teachers’ Retirement System.

In his public sector law practice, he has represented Boards of Trustees involved in key issues for public employee pension funds. In his private sector ERISA practice, he has represented trustees and other fiduciaries in matters pending before the ERISA Program at the Department of Labor, the program he led during the Carter and early Reagan years.

Ian heads up Groom’s Public Plan Practice Group—one of the leading practices of this type in the country—covering governance, fiduciary, investment, and tax matters affecting public plans, their members, and retirement boards.

Craige Stone directs the plan administration, daily operations, and customer service efforts of the Utah Retirement Systems Defined Contribution Savings Plans. These plans are provided for over 170,000 state, city, county, and school employees; including retirees. The Savings Plans consist of a 401(k) qualified plan, 457(b) governmental plan, Deemed Roth and Traditional IRAs.

In addition to the Savings Plans, Utah Retirement Systems administers Utah’s public defined benefit systems and the Utah Public Employees Health Plans. The Defined Contribution Department works closely to coordinate with these systems and benefit plans. Prior to his current position, Craige managed the marketing and education efforts for both the Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution plans.

Craige has worked for Utah Retirement Systems since 1997, and has 24 years working in the retirement benefits industry. A native of Utah, he earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Brigham Young University, and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Utah.

Monday Speakers

Mandy Manning, 2018 National Teacher of the Year

Mandy Manning teaches English to newly arrived refugee and immigrant students in the Newcomer Center at Joel E. Ferris High School in Spokane, Washington. In her classroom, Mandy uses experiential projects like map-making to help her students process trauma, celebrate their home countries and culture, and learn about their new community. As 2018 National Teacher of the Year, Mandy will encourage educators to teach their students to overcome their fears and seek out new experiences.

"Let's teach our students to be fearless," she says. "Let's teach them to be brave when confronted with uncertainty. Brave when they fail. Brave in meeting new people. Brave in seeking opportunities to experience things outside of their understanding."

Mandy strives to create connections between her students and the community inside and outside of the school. Her students work in the student store and she encourages other students to visit and volunteer in the Newcomer Center. She also invites district leaders, campus resource officers, community members of color, and professional writers to visit her classroom. The visits help her students learn cultural expectations and how to express themselves effectively. In return, her students teach these leaders where they come from, who they are, and the beauty they add to the school district.

"All of us together make this world interesting and good. We must teach our students to overcome their fears and seek out new experiences. The only way to teach fearlessness is to show it. We must show kindness by getting to know our students, learning about them, and showing them how to connect," she says.

Mandy has taught for the past 19 years, seven of which have been in her current role. She earned a Bachelor of Arts from Eastern Washington University, a Masters of Arts from West Texas A & M University, and a Masters of Fine Arts from Northwest Institute of Literary Arts. Mandy is a National Board Certified Teacher.