

## Brett Gies, Ph.D.



Dr. Brett Gies is a Professional Development Associate with the Leadership and Learning Center.

His career in public education has allowed him to serve at virtually every level in the system. He taught at the elementary school level and was an elementary assistant principal and principal. Brett served as the Director of Data Analysis & Program Improvement, Assessment Coordinator, Director of Federal Programs, Director of Professional Development, Director of Technology, District Reading Coordinator and school improvement initiatives for a mid-sized public school district in Idaho. He has extensive experience in leading school administrators and teachers through the school improvement process to meet the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act, School Accountability, and Adequate Yearly Progress.

He served as the Education Administrator for the New Mexico Public Education Department for standards-based assessments, led the New Mexico Task Force for the development of formative assessments and is responsible for the implementation of the state-wide standards-based assessments. After leaving the New Mexico PED, he served as the Director of Research, Data, Accountability and Testing for Santa Fe Public Schools. Brett went on to serve in the role of Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment for the Roaring Fork School District in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. Currently, Brett is the Superintendent for Sioux County Schools in Harrison, Nebraska.

Through Brett's educational philosophy, he believes that the ultimate role of an instructional leader – be it at the classroom, building, district, or state level – is to create an enduring system focusing on student achievement and growth. His system-wide background allows him the opportunity to understand education from a multitude of perspectives, tailor his presentations to meet diverse audience needs, and to help create enduring student centered systems.

In addition to being an accomplished school improvement leader and presenter at local and state levels, Brett has also served as a co-author or contributor to several school improvement publications including: *Improving Mathematics Standardized Test Scores: Lessons Learned from Four Title I Elementary Schools*, ERS, Spectrum; *Using Assessment Data to Improve Instruction*, ERS, The Informed Educator Series; *High Student Achievement: How Six School Districts Changed into High-Performance Systems*, ERS, The Informed Educator Series; and *High Achieving Schools: What Do They Look Like?*, ERS, The Informed Educator.

In his spare time, Brett rides horses and competes in 50-mile, multi-day endurance rides on horseback. He also enjoys exploring the beautiful outdoors that surround his Pine Ridge home in Nebraska. Brett is a strong supporter of animal shelters. He served on the board of directors for the Twin Falls Animal Shelter in Twin Falls, Idaho and helped orchestrate the building of a new shelter.

Brett earned his Bachelor's degree in elementary education from Chadron State College in Chadron Nebraska. He has a Master's and Educational Specialist degrees in Educational Administration from the University of Idaho - Boise, Idaho. He went on to earn a Ph.D. in Education from the University of Idaho - Boise.

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