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## Mark D. Modrcin

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**SUMMARY:** Proven charter school professional with significant experience in creating evaluative systems to promote and sustain school quality. Key competencies include:

- Charter authorizing and operator expert
- Performance evaluator and systems leader
- Ability to collaborate with key stakeholders
- Strong communicator

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Vertex Education**, Chandler, AZ (remote)

2023 – present

*Director of Growth and Governance*

- Lead new state growth efforts, including the approval of six new charter applications in South Carolina and one new charter application in North Carolina.
- Develop and implement planning year processes and progress benchmarks to ensure a high-quality opening.
- Analyze various state and local factors to make recommendations to leadership regarding strongest expansion opportunities for the Legacy Traditional model.
- Assemble new governing boards and build local partnerships through meetings and conversations with community stakeholders to ensure effective governance of new Legacy schools.
- Direct and oversee a cross-functional team to ensure that high-quality charter applications for Legacy Traditional Schools are submitted.
- Support existing Legacy Traditional School governing boards in Arizona, Nevada and Texas, including recruiting new board members that possess complementary skill sets and a passion for high-quality school choice in their community.
- Manage a small team to ensure that all growth efforts are adequately supported, and that existing boards have the necessary available resources.

**State Public Charter School Authority (SPCSA)**, Las Vegas, NV

2017 – 2023

*Director of Authorizing*

- Led authorizing functions of the SPCSA, overseeing the performance and evaluation of a statewide portfolio with nearly 45 charter holders at eighty campuses serving approximately 60,000 students.
- Presented key recommendations to the appointed Authority board, including new charter applications, charter amendments including expansion and grade level changes, performance interventions and differentiated oversight, closure and termination, and loan applications.
- Led new charter evaluation process, which included a thorough evaluation on an applicant's ability to provide high-quality schools to historically underperforming demographics, establish a school in a zip code with consistently underperforming schools, and/or offer a model focused on preventing student drop out.
- Managed a team of nine employees, including three direct reports, working to ensure that a positive team culture is established and maintained with minimal employee turnover.
- Designed and maintained multiple performance frameworks with stakeholder input to assess and evaluate school performance and to inform high-stakes recommendations and decisions.
- Oversaw and provided key recommendations for high-performing school portfolio, of which 64% of schools were classified in the two highest performance tiers compared to just 33% of all public schools.
- Monitored and analyzed financial performance data for sponsored schools, of which approximately 95% of schools were meeting performance indicators aligned to national best practices.
- Maintained strong relationships with other state authorizers and key stakeholders, sharing practices and information and seeking input on key recommendations that impact local communities.
- Led agency efforts to close multiple, historically underperforming schools, resulting in the elimination of grade segments and/or school closure.
- Oversaw the development of the agency's site evaluation process, building on national best practices while tailoring elements to the Nevada context, resulting in approximately 50 evaluations on an annual basis.

**Tulsa Public Schools, Tulsa, OK**

2009 – 2017

*Director of Charter and Partnership Schools, 2016 - 2017*

- Led district charter authorizing office, managing relationships with six schools and prospective applicants.
- Established Oklahoma's first public charter school performance framework, ensuring charter schools are held accountable for their performance while increasing the transparency of the sector.
- Supported and evaluated charter schools through the application, interview and renewal processes, working with both internal and external stakeholders to form a final recommendation for board action.
- Developed flexibilities and autonomies for schools to execute innovative models supporting instruction.
- Designed the district's partnership school application and review processes to promote innovation and empower school teams to leverage key autonomies to better serve students.
- Created a modified charter school application and renewal process to promote high standards and expectations for current and potential operators.

*Project Manager – Strategic Partnerships, 2013 - 2016*

- Designed solutions to solve school configuration and capacity problems of charters and traditional public schools that meet community needs.
- Supervised and assisted school teams in establishing systems ranging from accountability practices to operations.
- Oversaw the Tulsa Charter Collaboration Compact, an aspirational agreement between TPS and its charter schools to work in partnership to enhance the educational landscape for Tulsa students.
- Coordinated collaboration opportunities, recruitment, and enrollment between TPS and its charter schools.
- Leveraged and shared strengths of charter schools as identified by high quality data.
- Coordinated with the state department on best authorizing practices and policies for authorizing to ensure high standards for students.
- Organized and implemented a balanced scorecard accountability system for all 22 TPS departments.
- Designed, analyzed and prepared core goal reporting for the Board of Education.
- Worked as a liaison with Teach For America-Oklahoma, supporting Corps Member placement, retention, and other strategic initiatives.
- Led TPS Roster Verification efforts to provide annual district, school, and teacher value-added estimates.

*Project Specialist, 2011 – 2013*

- Managed summer school budget of more than \$700,000 (state, federal, and donor funds), working with district departments and external stakeholders in a cross-functional capacity.
- Planned and executed monthly district leadership conferences with district committee.
- Assisted with district efforts to develop and implement the Tulsa Evaluation Model for teachers statewide with fidelity.

**Teach For America, Tulsa, OK***Charter Corps Member, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade, Tulsa Public Schools, Whitman Elementary*

2009-2011

- One of 4,000 selected in 2009 (from over 35,000 applicants) to participate in Teach For America's national movement to ensure that children in low-income communities receive an excellent education.
- Selected by administration of Whitman Elementary as "2010 Teacher of Today" for outstanding instruction.
- Led 5<sup>th</sup> Grade math instruction, increasing proficiency scores by 54% from previous year, as measured on state end-of-year assessment; largest increase in metropolitan Tulsa.
- Improved overall reading proficiency through data-driven, small group instruction leading to over 75% mastery after 2010-2011 school year and more than one year of leveled reading growth in nine months.
- Conducted extra conferences and student tutoring sessions, helping lead to the acceptance of 25% of class to desired middle school magnet or lottery-based programs.

**LEADERSHIP****Tulsa Public Schools, Summer School Director**

2012 – 2014

- Led district-wide efforts to plan and execute Teach For America's inaugural Tulsa Summer Institute in 2012, one of only nine in the country, in collaboration with the University of Tulsa and Community Action Project; more than tripling attendance to 3,600 students, grades 1-12.

- Grew the Tulsa Summer Institute to over 4,500 students in 2013, making it the largest national training site for Teach For America Corps Members in the country.
- Assisted with placement and training of over 1,300 new teachers and 320 mentor teachers.
- Designed summer school structure, resulting in the recovery of over 800 course credits for secondary students to be applied towards graduation in 2012. Elementary students achieved, on average, approximately 90% of summer reading growth goals.
- Chaired annual selection committee to hire 240 teachers and ten administrators, utilizing recommendations, evaluation scores, and letters of intent. These efforts resulted in overall satisfaction levels for teachers at 15% above the national average when compared to other Summer Institutes.

**Walt Whitman Elementary, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Team Leader**

2010 – 2011

- Led implementation of school-wide data tracking system to assist in effective classroom instruction, thereby increasing student achievement.
- Independently researched district demographic, enrollment, and financial information for Project Schoolhouse presentation to District Executive Officers to develop consensus within school community.
- Supported collaboration among upper elementary building teachers to share ideas and successful systems targeting improved instructional methods.

**Phi Delta Theta Fraternity, Alpha Chapter, Executive Council**

2007 - 2009

- Led chapter recolonization following two-year absence from campus.
- As President, doubled membership to 70 in less than one year; developed, planned and executed signature philanthropic event, raising over \$1,000; served on house corporation and Interfraternity Council.

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & HONORS**

- One of 13 individuals selected for the 2024 School Board Fellowship facilitated by The Opportunity Trust, a six-month cohort experience aimed to elevate the important role of school boards
- One of 12 individuals selected for the 2015 NACSA Leaders Program, the nation's only development opportunity for authorizing professionals. Selected as a Coach for the same in 2017.
- Volunteer with Reading Partners, delivering individualized tutoring to build foundational reading skills.
- 2014 Tulsa New Leader, as selected by Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Sooner Chapter for community involvement and leadership. Raised over \$4,000 for the CF Foundation and research.
- Board Member—Teach For America Tulsa Alumni, Phi Delta Theta – Ohio Alpha Chapter.
- Nominated for 2012 iON Oklahoma's 30 Under 30 Next Gen Award, recognizing young professionals who demonstrate leadership and significant contributions to their field.

**EDUCATION**

**Masters of Business Administration, *University of Tulsa*, Tulsa, OK**

December 2015

**Bachelor of Science in Finance, *Miami University*, Oxford, OH**

May 2009

- University Honors Program, 2005-2009; Oxford Scholar, 2005-2009.
- Dean's List: Fall 2005, Spring 2006, Spring 2008.

**References**

Available upon request