

Presenter Biographies
October 28, 2020
Great Start Cohort and MASA Finance Academy

Session Facilitator

Kelly D. Smith

Director

Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors, LLC

Retired Superintendent, Belle Plaine Public Schools

Kelly.Smith@bakertilly.com

Dr. Kelly D. Smith is a Director at Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors, LLC (formerly Springsted). He previously served for 24 years as superintendent in Minnesota in several Greater Minnesota districts and is a past President of the Minnesota Association of School Administrators (MASA). Dr. Smith also has experience as a school district business manager in Minnesota.

Dr. Smith brings a number of skills to the Baker Tilly team including experience in school district re-organization, facilitating bond & operating levy campaigns, developing budgets and finding financial solutions to issues faced by school districts today.

Dr. Ray Queener

Senior Consultant

TeamWorks International

7037 20th Avenue South, Suite A

Centerville, MN 55038

651-336-4015

rayq@teamworksintl.net

Ray Queener is a Senior Consultant at TeamWorks International. He blends his experience across multiple arenas to assist clients in the areas of partnership skills, strategic growth, personality and motivation awareness, and systemic alignment and accountability.

Ray has a wealth of experience in education having served in multiple capacities over 30 years. His work in education began as a secondary math teacher in Luck, WI. Having a vision for integrating technology into the classroom, he was able to further that vision as he served as technology coordinator for South St. Paul Schools and later Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan (ISD 196). He transitioned to finance director at ISD 196 and later Stillwater Area Public Schools (SAPS) where he gained valuable experiences learning organizational operations while continuing to serve in public education. Both as an assistant superintendent at SAPS for 10 years and the last 6 years as superintendent for Cambridge-Isanti Schools, he has helped lead successful bond and levy referendums in addition to overseeing district operations.

Ray is recognized as a National Certified Superintendent through American Association of School Administrators (AASA) He earned his Doctorate in Educational Policy & Administration and received his Superintendent License from the University of Minnesota. He earned his Master of Arts in Educational Administration from St. Mary's University of Minnesota where he also continues on as adjunct faculty. He has a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Mathematics Education with a minor in Computer Science from University of Minnesota.

Nancy Rajanen

Lecturer & Administrative Licensure Coordinator, CEHD, University of Minnesota
Retired Superintendent, Waconia Public Schools
178 Pillsbury Dr SE
210F Burton Hall
Minneapolis, MN 55455-0226
612-626-7456
raja0105@umn.edu

Dr. Rajanen completed a 38-year career in Minnesota K-12 public education, with 20 years in Pk-12 leadership roles. Her leadership roles in Minnesota included Director of Special Education, Director of Human Resources, Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent of Schools. For the past five years, Dr. Rajanen has been Coordinator of Administrative Licensure at the University of Minnesota, providing instruction and advising to graduate students pursuing MN administrative license as Principal, Superintendent, or Director.

Dr. Rajanen has assumed leadership roles within professional organizations, including the State Negotiators, MN Association of School Administrators and MN Association of Personnel Administrators. She provides consultation throughout Minnesota on issues related to school personnel administration.