Dr. Matthew S. McCluskey

College of Education and Social Services University of Vermont 446 Waterman Building Burlington, VT 05405 Matthew.McCluskey@uvm.edu

<u>UVM Faculty Profile</u>

<u>Google Scholar</u>

https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2911-7849

EDUCATION

2021 Ed.D. Leadership & Learning in Organizations

Vanderbilt University

Nashville, TN

Dissertation: "The Revolving Door:" Identifying Causes of Teacher Turnover within a

Charter Management Organization

2011 M.Ed. Curriculum & Instruction

Boston College Chestnut Hill, MA

2010 B.A. English and Secondary Education

Boston College Chestnut Hill, MA

16 Credits of International Study at University of Cape Town, South Africa

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2023-present Assistant Professor: Educational Leadership & Policy Studies (Tenure-Track)

Graduate Faculty Appointment Department of Education

College of Education and Social Services

The University of Vermont

Burlington, VT

2021-2023 Assistant Professor: Educational Leadership (Tenure-Track)

Department of Educator and Leadership Preparation College of Education and Human Development

Texas A&M University-San Antonio

San Antonio, TX

2016-2019 Founding Assistant Principal of Curriculum & Instruction

North Star Academy Lincoln Park High School

Newark, NJ

2011-2016 English Department Chair and English Teacher

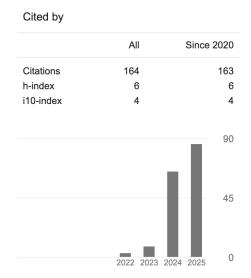
North Star Academy Washington Park High School

Newark, NJ

* Signifies graduate student.

PPUBLICATIONS (N=13; 70% as lead or solo author)

Google Scholar citation metrics (as of October 21, 2025)



Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles (N=12)

- 12. Adams, E. A.*, & **McCluskey, M. S.** (In Press). The price of precarity: A practitioner's journey into the neoliberal academy. *Journal of Cases in Educational Leadership, 0*(0). **IF:** N/A; **AR:** N/A
- 11. **McCluskey, M. S.**, & Narayanan, M. (2025). Uncommon or too common? The discursive diffusion and transformation of charter edupreneurial policy ideas. *Journal of Education Policy*, 0(0). https://doi.org/10.1080/02680939.2025.2517686. **IF:** 3.7; **AR:** 10%
- 10. **McCluskey, M. S.**, & Narayanan, M. (2025). Posting against the system: BIPOC teacher counterstories and resistance in charter management organizations. *Urban Education*, *0*(0). https://doi.org/10.1177/00420859251369739. **IF:** 4.4; **AR:** 10.5%
- 9. **McCluskey, M. S.**, Narayanan, M., & Milne, E.* (2025). Reform for "these" kids: Neoliberal reform, theorized target populations, and spatial injustice. *Educational Policy*, *0*(0). https://doi.org/10.1177/08959048251326829. **IF:** 2.6; **AR:** 8.1%
- 8. Narayanan, M., & **McCluskey, M. S.** (2025). Signifying improvement: Reform symbols as discursive practice in school improvement plans. *Educational Administration Quarterly*, *0*(0). https://doi.org/10.1177/0013161X251319215. **IF:** 2.6; **AR:** 20.6%
- McCluskey, M. S. (2025). A dry pipeline: CMO teacher hiring in an uncertain teacher labor market. Leadership and Policy in Schools, 24(2), 256-277. https://doi.org/10.1080/15700763.2024.2312994. IF: 1.8; AR: 44%
- 6. Narayanan, M., & McCluskey, M. S. (2025). #BlackatCMO: Challenging charter schools through youth Instagram counterstories. *Education, Citizenship & Social Justice, 20*(1), 93-106. https://doi.org/10.1177/17461979231206941. **IF:** 1.3; **AR:** 24.8%
- 5. **McCluskey, M. S.** (2025). Raising the floor or lowering the ceiling: Challenges to instructional leadership at scale. *Journal of Cases in Educational Leadership, 28*(1), 29-46. https://doi.org/10.1177/15554589241273203. **IF:** N/A; **AR:** N/A

- 4. **McCluskey, M. S.** (2024). Scaling toward utopia or dystopia: Challenges to preserving organizational values through growth. *Journal of Cases in Educational Leadership*, 27(3), 70-85. https://doi.org/10.1177/15554589241238902. **IF:** N/A; **AR:** N/A
- 3. **McCluskey, M. S.** (2024). Leave like a champion: Teacher embeddedness and turnover at an urban "no-excuses" charter management organization. *Journal of Education*, 204(3), 576-594. https://doi.org/10.1177/00220574231190925. **IF:** 1.1; **AR:** 2.1%
- 2. **McCluskey, M. S.** (2023). Turnover contagion: Trust and the compounding impact of turnover on teachers. *Journal of School Choice, 17*(4), 563-593. https://doi.org/10.1080/15582159.2022.2151923. **IF:** 1.26; **AR:** 43%
- Narayanan, M., Ordynans, J. G., Wang, A., McCluskey, M. S., Elivert, N., Shields, A. L., & Ferrell, A. C. (2023). Putting the self-efficacy: Personal factors in the development of early teacher self-efficacy. *Education and Urban Society*, 55(2), 175-200. https://doi.org/10.1177/00131245211062528. IF: 1.5; AR: 9.2%

Peer Reviewed Book Chapters (N=1)

1. **McCluskey, M. S.**, & Narayanan, M. (2024). Black movement in white spaces: How youth online protests challenge "no excuses" charter practices. In D. D. Johnson, M. D. Lovett, & J. H. Lipschultz (Eds.), Race, Africana communication, and criminal justice reform: A reflective and intersectional analysis of adaptive vitality. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.

Submissions Under Review (N=4)

- 4. **McCluskey, M. S.**, & Narayanan, M. (2025). Teaching, guilt, and moral injury: Revisiting Hargreaves in the neoliberal era. **Status:** Revise and Resubmit Under Review *The Urban Review*. **IF:** 2.95; **AR:** N/A.
- 3. **McCluskey, M. S.**, & Saqib, W.* (2025). Black teacher: Black school: White CMO. Neoliberal multiculturalism in a no-excuses charter management organization. **Status:** Revise and Resubmit Under Review *Teachers College Record (TCR)*. **IF:** 1.9; **AR:** 6%
- 2. Brooks, A.*, & McCluskey, M. S. (2025). Food for thought: Critical food systems education in the neoliberal university. Status: Revise and Resubmit Under Review Agriculture and Human Values. IF: 4.1; AR: 10%
- 1. Reynold, W.*, **McCluskey, M. S.,** & Gagner, S.* (2025). Under the gun: Intersectional sensemaking through a campus carry crisis. **Status:** Revise and Resubmit Under Review *Journal of Cases in Educational Leadership (JCEL)*. **IF:** N/A; **AR:** N/A

Research in Progress

- 2. **McCluskey, M. S.,** Adams, E.*, Cox, L.*, & Wang, J.* (Projected 2026). Prophets from a different land: An exploratory study of educational consulting.
- 1. **McCluskey, M. S.,** Sutherland, D. H., Chesley-Park, M.*, & Pedowitz, Z.* (Projected 2026). Portrait of a rural principal: A needs assessment study of rural principalship in Vermont.

GRANT FUNDING

Funded Proposals (N=5)

- 5. Sutherland, D. H., & McCluskey, M. S. (2024). *Creating a Vermont rural education hub.* Seed grant proposal submitted to the Leahy Institute for Rural Partnerships. \$10,000 in funding awarded.
- 4. **McCluskey, M. S.,** Sutherland, D., & Callahan, R. (2024). EDLP curricular innovation and redesign for rural Vermont. Grant application accepted for the CESS Academic and Curricular SEED Grant. **\$8,500** in funding awarded.
- 3. **McCluskey, M. S.** (2023). Examining the impact of cumulative collective teacher experience on student academic performance. Grant application accepted for the University of Vermont Early Extra Promotion of Research and Scholarly Success (EXPRESS) Award. **\$3,000** in funding awarded.
- 2. Webb, C. L., & McCluskey, M. S. (2022). Raising Texas teachers at the Texas A&M University San Antonio College of Education and Human Development. Grant application accepted by the Charles Butt Foundation. \$50,000 in funding awarded.
- 1. Webb, C. L., & McCluskey, M. S. (2021). Texas A&M University San Antonio College of Education and Human Development educator preparation program transformation initiative. Grant application accepted by the Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity. \$400,000 in funding awarded.

Submitted Proposals

- 2. **McCluskey, M. S.** (2025). Prophets from a different land: An exploratory study of educational consulting. \$60,000 grant application submitted to the Spencer Foundation. **Under review.**
- 1. **McCluskey, M. S.** (2024). Prophets from a different land: An exploratory study of educational consulting. \$70,000 fellowship application submitted to the National Academy of Education (NaEd) / Spencer Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship. **Not funded.**

PUBLIC WRITING AND NEWS MEDIA RECGNITION

- 3. Bailey, L. (2025). UVM research examines the growth and influence of charter schools in America. *UVM CESS News*. Retrieved from www.uvm.edu/cess/news/uvm-researcher-examines-growth-and-influence-charter-schools-america.
- 2. Research Outreach. (2023). Teacher embeddedness. Turning the tables for turnover contagion. *Research Outreach*, 137. DOI: 10.32907/RO-137-5029753223.
- 1. Gilman, D. (2023). Developing educational leaders and policy researchers across Vermont: UVM revamps programs to improve statewide access for educational leaders in Vermont. UVM CESS News. Retrieved from https://www.uvm.edu/cess/news/developing-educational-leaders-and-policy-researchers-across-vermont.

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Presentations (N=15)

- 15. **McCluskey, M. S.**, Adams, E.*, & Cox, L.* (2026, April). Consulting without consequences: The absence of accountability in educational consulting. A paper submitted for the American Educational Research Association (AERA) 2026 Annual Meeting.
- 14. **McCluskey, M. S.**, Cox, L.*, & Adams, E.* (2025, April). *Prophets from a different land: An exploratory study of educational consulting.* A paper presented at the AERA 2025 Annual Meeting.
- 13. Sutherland, D. H., **McCluskey, M. S.**, Heraty, R.*, & Eklöf-Parks, T.* (2025, April). "Vote down the school budget! They don't want to just survive, they want to thrive!": Local control and intergovernmental policy rhetoric. A paper presented at the AERA 2025 Annual Meeting.
- 12. **McCluskey, M. S.**, Adams, E.*, & Cox, L.* (2024, November). *Prophets from a different land: An exploratory study of educational consulting*. A paper presented at the University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA) 2024 Annual Convention.
- 11. **McCluskey, M. S.**, & Narayanan, M. (2024, April). "This was NO place for me:" Teacher social media protest of CMOs. A paper presented at the AERA 2024 Annual Meeting.
- 10. Narayanan, M., & McCluskey, M. S. (2024, April). Signaling reform: School improvement plans and discursive symbols of legitimacy. A paper presented at the AERA 2024 Annual Meeting.
- 9. **McCluskey, M. S.** (2024, April). Leave like a champion: Teacher embeddedness and turnover at an urban "no-excuse" charter management organization. Within symposium: Teacher well-being through the COVID-19 Pandemic. A session presentation paper presented at the AERA 2024 Annual Meeting.
- 8. **McCluskey, M. S.** (2024, April). A dry pipeline: CMO teacher hiring in an uncertain labor market. Within symposium: Strategic staffing and incentives. A session presentation paper presented at the AERA 2024 Annual Meeting.
- 7. **McCluskey, M. S.**, & Butcher, M. (2023, November). *Black teachers: Black school: White CMO. Multicultural capital and Black teacher experience at a "no-excuses" CMO.* A paper presented at the American Educational Studies Association (AESA) 2023 Conference.
- 6. **McCluskey, M. S.,** & Narayanan, M. (2023, November). "This was NO place for me:" Teacher social media protest of CMOs. A paper presented at the AESA 2023 Conference.
- 5. Narayanan, M., & McCluskey, M. S. (2023, November). *Constructed and constricted: (Un)Common discourses in school improvement plans.* A paper presented at the AESA 2023 Conference.
- 4. **McCluskey, M. S.**, & Narayanan, M. (2023, April). *Toocommon schools: A critical policy analysis of the proliferation of Uncommon Schools*. A paper presented at the AERA 2023 Annual Meeting.
- 3. **McCluskey, M. S.**, & Narayanan, M. (2023, February). *Toocommon schools: A critical policy analysis of the proliferation of Uncommon Schools*. A paper presented at the SERA 2023 Annual Meeting.
- 2. **McCluskey, M. S.**, & Narayanan, M. (2022, November). *Black movement in white spaces: How youth online protests challenge no excuses charter practices.* A paper presented at the AESA 2022 Conference.
- 1. **McCluskey, M. S.** (2021, November). "The revolving door:" Identifying causes of teacher turnover within a charter managing organization. A paper presented at the Vanderbilt University Doctoral Convening.

Invited Presentations (N=11)

- 11. **McCluskey, M. S.** (2025, October). *Market logics in policy diffusion*. Invited speaker for Vanderbilt University Course "LLP 8240: Public Policy and Administration."
- 10. **McCluskey, M. S.** (2025, October). *Career in higher education panel.* Invited speaker for Vanderbilt University Peabody College of Education and Human Development graduate students.
- 9. **McCluskey, M. S.** (2025, September). What's the deal with charter schools? Invited speaker for University of Vermont course Social, Historical, & Philosophical Foundations of Education (EDFS 3030).
- 8. **McCluskey, M. S.** & Milne, E.* (2025, May). Reform for "these" kids: Neoliberal reform, theorized target populations, and spatial injustice. Poster presentation at University of Vermont CESS Research Symposium.
- 7. **McCluskey, M. S.** (2025, February). *Career in higher education panel.* Invited speaker for Vanderbilt University Peabody College of Education and Human Development graduate students.
- 6. **McCluskey, M. S.** (2024, October). *No-excuses schools and the charter movement.* Invited speaker for Boston College course "Transformative Teaching and Learning."
- 5. **McCluskey, M. S.** (2024, October). Black teacher: Black school: White CMO. Cultural capital dissonance in a "no-excuses" charter management organization. UVM Department of Education Brown Bag Research presentation.
- 4. **McCluskey, M. S.** (2024, August). *VT Education Road Trip*. Invited presentation for the UVM Department of Education Data Dive.
- 3. McCluskey, M. S. (2024, June). Coaching for excellence. UVM Sponsored Project Admin. leadership team.
- 2. **McCluskey, M. S.** (2024, August). Researching, teaching and service: Advice for new faculty. Invited speaker for the Association of Teacher Educators' (ATE) Induction System for New Professors (ISNP).
- 1. **McCluskey, M. S.** (2024, January). *No-excuses schools and the charter movement.* Invited speaker for Stanford University Course "Concrete Jungle Where Dreams are Made of: Education Inequality in NYC."

COURSES TAUGHT

Course		Institution
EDLP 6000:	Leading Learning Organizations	University of Vermont
EDLP 6100:	Affecting and Managing Change	University of Vermont
EDLP 6350:	Staff Evaluation & Development	University of Vermont
EDLP 7050:	Educational Policy Seminar	University of Vermont
EDRM 6300:	Applied Educational Research	University of Vermont
EDLP 7993:	Independent Study: Various	University of Vermont
EDAD 5301:	Organizational Foundations of Education	Texas A&M University – San Antonio
EDAD 5302:	Leading Elementary & Secondary Curricula	Texas A&M University – San Antonio
EDAD 5315:	Administration of Various Special Programs	Texas A&M University – San Antonio
EDAD 5329:	Educational Research	Texas A&M University – San Antonio
EDAD 5345:	Internship in School Administration	Texas A&M University – San Antonio

Average Course Evaluations: 4.98/5

ADVISING AND RELATED STUDENT SERVICE:

Doctoral Advisees: Completed

Doctoral Dissertation Committee Member

Monica Desrochers UVM Educational Leadership & Policy Studies Ed.D. 2025

Dissertation: Examining efficacy of K-12 school principals: An analysis of the 2020-2021 National Teacher and Principal Survey.

John Comforto Vanderbilt Leadership & Learning in Organizations Ed.D. 2022

Capstone: Teacher assessment conceptions and practices at an independent school.

Daniel Garvey Vanderbilt Leadership & Learning in Organizations Ed.D. 2022

Capstone: Leveraging organizational conditions to improve the efficacy of professional learning initiatives.

Kelly J. Kinz Vanderbilt Leadership & Learning in Organizations Ed.D. 2022

Capstone: Coach-parent communication in high school athletics.

Doctoral Mentoring: Current

Dissertation Advisor

Jiao (Penelope) Wang UVM Educational Leadership & Policy Studies Ph.D. student

Awards: Presidential Doctoral Fellowship

Dissertation: TBD

Elizabeth Adams UVM Educational Leadership & Policy Studies Ph.D. student

Dissertation: TBD

Lindsey Cox UVM Educational Leadership & Policy Studies Ph.D. student

Dissertation: From the ground up: Sustaining teacher-led reform & the impact of deeper learning on public high school students

Mandy Chesley-Park UVM Educational Leadership & Policy Studies Ph.D. student

Dissertation: TBD

Ryan Heraty UVM Educational Leadership & Policy Studies Ed.D. student

Dissertation: Vermont's act 127: A critical policy analysis.

Doctoral Dissertation Committee Member

Alison Kromf UVM Educational Leadership & Policy Studies Ph.D. student

Dissertation: Sociological strengths and the mental health needs of K-12 students

Erin Milne UVM Educational Leadership & Policy Studies Ph.D. student

Dissertation: Understanding first-generation experiences at VTSU: A merger case study

Tamara Eklof UVM Educational Leadership & Policy Studies Ed.D. student

Dissertation: TBD

Wendy Reynolds UVM Educational Leadership & Policy Studies Ed.D. student

Dissertation: Impact of compassionate care for nurses: Nursing students' resilience

Master's Students Mentoring

Rory Woodard UVM Curriculum & Instruction M.Ed. 2024

Comprehensive Exam Committee: M.Ed Curriculum & Instruction

AWARDS

- Prelock Online Teaching Award 2024 Finalist
- Karen Lewis Teacher's Work/Teachers Union Outstanding Paper 2024 Award
- AERA School Effectiveness/ Improvement SIG Early Career Scholar Registration Award
- Texas A&M University SA Center for Academic Innovation (\$1,500) 2023
- AERA Division A Sponsorship Award– 2023
- Stanford University Hollyhock Fellowship 2016

SERVICE

National Service

- Journal Editorial Boards
 - o Journal of School Choice (2024-present)
 - o Journal of Education (2024-present)
 - o Journal of Cases in Educational Leadership (2024-present)
- Comm. Director, AERA Charters/School Choice Special Interest Group (2023-2025)
- Ad Hoc Book Review
 - Routledge
- Ad Hoc Journal Referee Service
 - o AERA Open
 - o Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis
 - o Education Policy Analysis Archives
 - o Journal of School Leadership
 - o Leadership & Policy in Schools
 - Urban Education
 - Youth & Society
- Ad Hoc Conference Referee Service
 - American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting (2022-Present)
 - Division A (Administration). Sec 1: Leadership
 - Division A (Administration). Sec 3: School and District Improvement.
 - Division G (Social Context of Education). Sec 4. Policies, Mattering, & Praxis
 - Division L (Ed Policies & Politics). Sec 4: School Choice & Market Reforms.
 - Charters and School Choice Special Interest Group (SIG).
 - o University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA) Convention (2024)
 - o American Educational Studies Association (AESA)Annual Conference (2022-2023)
- Conference Session Chair/Discussant
 - Session Chair: Understanding the multifaceted dynamics of educational environments: From climate to culture, and collaboration. AERA Division A – Section 2 School Organization and Effects. AERA 2024 Annual Meeting.
 - O Session Chair: Teacher identity and agency in racially and politically contested contexts. AERA SIG-Lives of Teachers. AERA 2024 Annual Meeting.
- Award Committees
 - AERA 2025 School Effectiveness and School Improvement SIG Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award

Service to the University

- Committee Member, Financial and Physical Planning Committee, UVM (2025-present)
- Committee Member, United Academics Legislative Committee, UVM (2025-present)
- Committee Member, Academic Integrity Council, UVM (2024-present)
- Facilitator, Professional Development Sponsored Project Administration, UVM (2024)
- Committee Service, Graduate Program Advisory Committee, TAMU-SA (2021-2023)
- Committee Service, Cross-Disciplinary Education Committee, TAMU-SA (2021-2023)
- Co-Organizer, "Teaching in a Climate of Censorship" workshop, TAMU-SA (2022)

Service to the College

- Committee Member, Jean S. Garvin Research Fellowship Committee, UVM (2023-present)
- Committee Member, Committee for Equity Action and Diversity White Affinity & Caucus Space (WACS), UVM (2023-2024)
- Task Force Member, Doctoral Program Proposal Task Force, TAMU-SA (2021-2023)
- Co-PI/Lead, Branch Alliance/Raising TX Teachers, TAMU-SA (2021-2023)

Service to the Department

- Search Committee Member, Education Finance Assistant Professor, UVM (2025-present)
- Curriculum Designer, Competency-Based Pathway Curriculum, UVM (2025-present)
- Committee Member, EDLP Dissertation Award Selection Committee, UVM (2024-present)
- Committee Member, EDLP Doctoral Program Steering Committee, UVM (2023-present)
- Committee Member, EDLP Doctoral Advisory Board, UVM (2023-present)
- Graduate Program Coordinator, Educational Administration, TAMU-SA (2022-2023)
- New Curriculum Design, M.Ed. in Instructional Leadership to Texas A&M University System and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, TAMU-SA (2021-2023)
- Committee Member, Faculty Evaluation Committee, TAMU-SA (2021-2023)
- Committee Member, ELP Department Chair Selection Committee, TAMU-SA (2022)

Regional Service to the Community

- Volunteer, Burlington Public Schools (2023-present)
- Founding Board Member, Vermont Rural Education Associaton (2024-2025)
- Collaboration for Effective Educator Development, Accountability, and Reform (CEEDAR) Inclusive Leadership Topical Action Group (TAG) (2024-2025)
- VT CEEDAR Inclusive Principal Leadership Team (2024-2025)
- Literary Magazine Advisor, University Prep Middle School (2022-2025)
- Bexar Country Educator Pipeline Collaborative Advisory Council (2022-2023)
- Instrument Validator, Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity (2022-2023)
- Leadership Advising, Norwalk Public Schools (Norwalk, CT) (March 2023)
- Leadership Advising, Oakland Unified School District (Oakland, CA) (February 2023)
- Leadership Advising, Synergy Academies (Los Angeles, CA) (February 2023)
- Committee Member, Bexar County Recruitment & Retention Initiative (2022)
- Leadership Advising, City School for the Arts (NY, NY) (2021-2022)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Editorial Board Member, Journal of School Choice: International Research and Reform (2024-present)
- Editorial Board Member, Journal of Cases in Educational Leadership (JCEL) (2024-present)
- Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Education* (2024-present)
- Member, American Educational Research Association (AERA) (2022-present)
- Member, University Council of Educational Administration (UCEA) (2023-present)
- Member, The Carnegie Project on the Education Doctorate (CPED) (2023-present)

CERTIFICATIONS

- The Association of College and University Educators (ACUE) Effective Teaching Practices
- National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity (NCFDD) Faculty Success Program
- Texas Education Agency ID #2421324 (T-TESS Field Supervisor)
- Massachusetts Secondary English Certification, Initial Licensure, Certification # 450263
- New York Secondary English Certificaion, Initial Licensure, Control # 522131111
- New Jersey Secondary English Certification, Standard Certificate, Certification# 882293
- Teaching English Language Learners (TELL) Certification
- Qualified MELA-O Administration (QMA)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- AERA Educational Leadership and Policy Mentoring Program (ELPMP).
- Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity
- Texas A&M University Education Summit
- National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity (NCFDD) Faculty Success Program
- The Association of College and University Educators (ACUE) Effective Teaching Practices