

Denise Wiedemann, Chief Academic Officer

Denise Wiedemann joined the Kansas City, Missouri School District (KCMSD) as **Chief Academic Officer/Associate Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction** in September 2009.

Wiedemann comes to Kansas City from the **Clark County School District in Las Vegas**, where she led school improvement initiatives for the fifth largest school district in the nation. During her tenure as School Improvement Coordinator she served more than 300,000 students in 360 schools. She led an effort that moved the district from state-imposed corrective measures to achieve Adequate Yearly Progress under the No Child Left Behind guidelines.

As part of that school improvement initiative, Wiedemann was the primary author of “The Facilitator’s Guide to School Improvement,” a comprehensive manual designed to assist administrators and school improvement teams with understanding and analyzing data to better determine the issues and causes impeding student achievement.

Before arriving at the Clark County School District, Wiedemann worked as a teacher in a high performing school district in Dublin, Ohio. Subsequently she served as an administrator in North Olmstead, Ohio, where she designed trend data reports in the initial years of the federal **No Child Left Behind Act**. She used this as the basis for professional development, helping teachers in her school identify gaps in instruction and alignment of curriculum and instruction to standards-based assessments.

During her tenure in Las Vegas, Wiedemann also provided strong leadership for schools engaged in turnaround efforts. She designed, wrote and implemented a \$300,000 grant for Title I schools that focused on consistent adult protocols, a leadership mentoring program and a symposium for highly-qualified teachers to increase instructional capacity.

Wiedemann’s work in school improvement earned a first-place award for the Clark County School District in 2008 from the American Educational Research Association (AERA) for “Differentiated by Design,” a comprehensive symposium assisting more than 4,000 educators increase their capacity to positively influence student achievement.

Wiedemann earned a bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Elementary Education from the University of Southern Connecticut, and a master’s in Educational Leadership from Ashland University. She has also worked effectively to align her professional experience to Interstate School Leaders Licensure Consortium standards.