



2019 NSEE Awards of Excellence
Outstanding Leader in Experiential Education: K-12



Melanie McGuire
Victor Central School District

Melanie McGuire has been passionate about the field of special education since volunteering in a rec program for individuals with developmental disabilities while in high school. Her classroom experience includes working with students at the preschool, middle and senior high levels. In 2005, Melanie joined Victor Central School District in upstate New York and served in a number of roles, including Chairperson for the Committee on Special Education, Director of Special Education, and most recently Director of Special Programs and Compliance until retiring in December 2018. Her areas of expertise include special education law, inclusive program development and federal programs.

Creating LifePrep@Naz, a collaboration between Victor Schools, Nazareth College, and the Arc of Monroe County, is one of Melanie's career highlights. Since 2011, LifePrep@Naz has provided authentic, inclusive learning experiences for young adults with developmental disabilities on a college campus. Melanie and her husband, Jim, reside in Bloomfield, New York and are the parents of two daughters. She is an active member of the Board of Directors for Family Promise of Ontario County, an organization that supports homeless children and their families, and enjoys travel, gardening and cooking.