

# Biography



## Karla Brooks Baehr

Dr. Karla Brooks Baehr began her work with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in July 2008. As Deputy Commissioner for Accountability, Assistance and Partnerships, she is leading the effort to redesign the state's accountability and assistance system now that full responsibility for district accountability has been given to the Department. In her thirty-five years in education in Massachusetts Dr. Baehr has served students, teachers and families in both urban and suburban settings. She has also worked in higher education and developed partnerships between higher education institutions and K-12 districts.

Prior to coming to the Department, Dr. Baehr served for eight years as superintendent of schools in Lowell. Before that she was a member of the faculty at Lesley University for five years in its Graduate School of Education where she taught aspiring administrators on campus and practicing teachers off campus in a masters program in curriculum and instruction in places as diverse as Denver, Seattle, Las Vegas, and Thermopolis, Wyoming. She went to Lesley after serving as Superintendent of Schools in Wellesley for nine years and as Interim Superintendent in both Lexington and Franklin. She started her career in education as a high school social studies teacher in Methuen. She taught in middle schools in Arlington and has held central office positions in personnel as well as in curriculum and instruction.

She earned her bachelors' degree in history from Middlebury College, a Masters in Education from Harvard, and a doctorate in Educational Leadership from Boston University