Steve Underwood works in the Idaho State Department of Education and serves as the Director of the Statewide System of Support directly supervising the programs and support structures available to assist schools and districts in the process of systemically improving their professional practices. These include the School Improvement Grant program, Response to Intervention (RTI), family and community engagement, the 21st Century Community Learning Centers afterschool program, the Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP), and statewide school and district improvement programs. Underwood has 16 years of experience in the field of education and previously has served in roles that have provided leadership in a variety of areas, including literacy, RTI, action planning, assessment and data utilization, and instructional coaching. Underwood holds a master’s degree in education from Biola University and is presently a candidate for a doctorate degree in education at Boise State University, where he is focusing his studies on systemic improvement for districts and schools.