



College of Education
and Human Development

SUMMER EDUCATORS INSTITUTE 2025

Learning Without Limits
Elevating Education Across Communities

June 25-27 • In-Person • University of Maine in Orono



STRAND ONE: CULTIVATING RURAL TEACHER LEADERSHIP

This strand will support rural teachers and teacher leaders with guiding instructional and organizational change, inquiry-based learning, and will center around the problems of practice that teachers bring with them from their classrooms and schools. This strand's workshops and work time will focus on building cross-school connections with other professionals, sharing "what works" from the field, and leveraging the strengths of rural places for student learning.

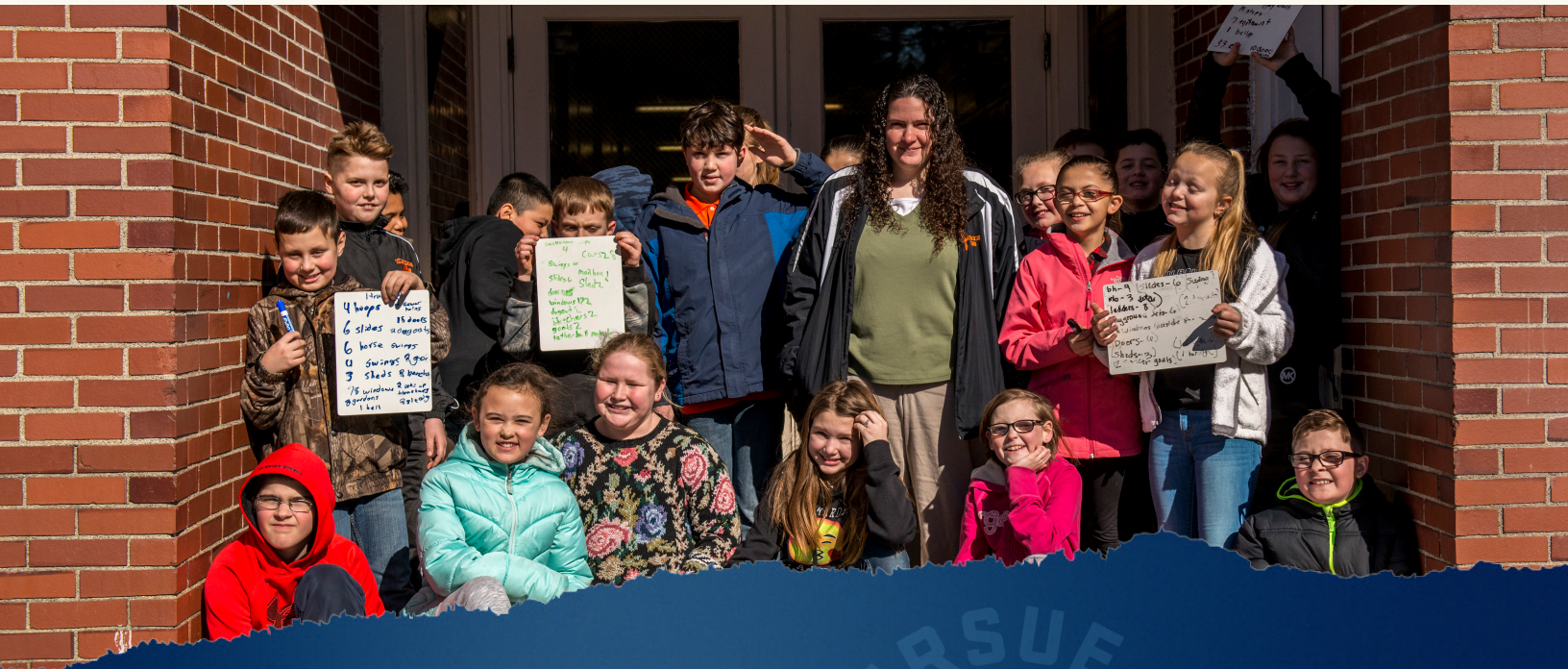


STRAND LEADER

Catharine Biddle, Associate Professor of Educational Leadership/CARES Director



Dr. Biddle's research focuses on ways that rural schools and communities respond to social and economic change in the 21st century. She is particularly interested in how schools can more effectively leverage partnerships with external organizations or groups to address issues of social inequality and how non-traditional leaders—such as youth, parents and other community members—may lead or serve as partners in these efforts. Her interests are driven by her professional background in community development that leverages schools. Prior to joining the faculty at UMaine, she spent five years as a research affiliate with the Center on Rural Education and Communities at the Pennsylvania State University.



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