



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 TWO: MIDDLE-LEVEL EDUCATION

Middle school students (ages 10 to 14) possess unique developmental characteristics, and need a school and learning experience different from elementary and high school. The Middle-Level Education strand will focus on the challenges and promises of young adolescents, and the philosophy, organization, and practices to best meet their needs. Leaders and presenters have extensive background and successful teaching/leading experience in middle schools.

## STRAND LEADERS

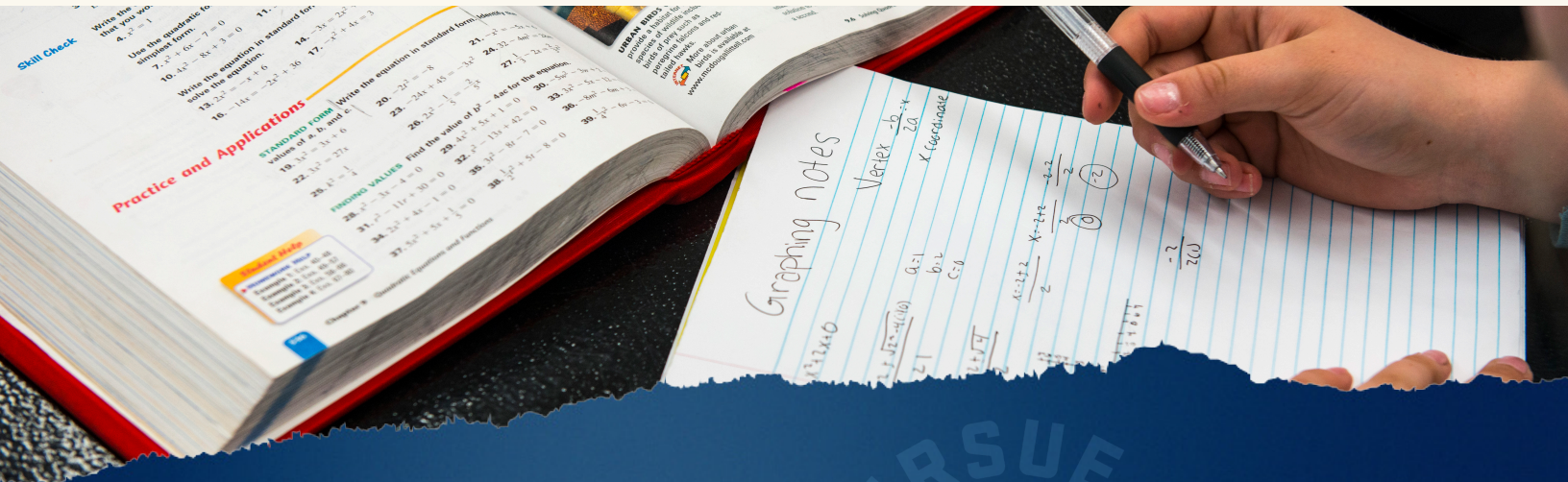
### Gert Nesin, Teacher-Leader in Residence/UMaine

Gert has been a middle school teacher, principal, professor, coach and bus driver. She holds a master's and Ph.D. in Middle School Education. Her areas of expertise are integrated curriculum, assessment, restorative practice, classroom management, active learning, teacher-leaders, and rural schools. She is currently the Teacher Leader-in-Residence at the University of Maine, building a network to support teacher leaders in rural schools.



### Mike Muir, Principal/East Grand School in Danforth

Mike is a 35+ year educator, who is dedicated to helping rural schools create motivating learning experiences, especially for disenfranchised and under-resourced student populations. His expertise includes middle-level education, engaging the disengaged, leading school change, integrating technology, and student motivation. His background content areas are math, technology and Project Based Learning.



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