



OUR TEAM



TARA SCHWERDT

Professional Learning Specialist

BIOGRAPHY

"As a first-generation college student, I value education and the importance of ALL students having access to their education. It is my passion to help each and every student have opportunities to be successful in their education and beyond."

Over the past few years, I have gained an immense amount of knowledge and experience in leading a counseling team for West Valley Early College High School (WVEHCHS). I have been working in education for almost 20 years, first as a math teacher and site teacher on assignment, followed by my school counseling experience at WVECHS. While in leadership at WVECHS, our A-G, FAFSA, CTE, and dual enrollment rates have steadily moved in the positive direction. This work was only possible with the intentional efforts of my team, consistently looking at data to inform our practices and create tier 2 interventions that support student success.

As the current Shasta County School Counseling Coordinator, I look forward to continuing this important work to support all school counselors in the county in these efforts. Bringing equitable practices to our schools is critical in closing the opportunity gaps for our underserved student groups and I hope this work will inspire others to advocate fiercely for the students they serve.

PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- 2020 Shasta County School Counselor of the Year
- Former High School Lead Counselor (6 years)
- 2019 CSBA Golden Bell Recipient for the Reach Higher Shasta Counseling Initiative work
- Current School Counseling Coordinator for Shasta County Office of Education
- Former High School Math teacher and Attendance TOSA (13 years)

FUN FACTS

- Mom of two delightful little boys.
- Voted by my former students 3 years in a row as the staff member who will most likely remember their names. I'm very proud of that!



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