

WV Commission for Professional Teaching Standards
Nominations

Jason Massie is a 8th grade math teacher at Mountainview School in Monroe county. He has been teaching middle school math for 11 years. During his tenure, he has taught all three middle school grades in a math classroom. He has also been a teacher leader with Moutaineer Mathematics Master Teachers for the past five years as well as serving as the cochair of his school's faculty senate.

Kayla Benson, MPA serves as President of The EdVenture Group, leading the organization's vision, strategy, and continued growth. She believes education has the power to change lives, and the most meaningful change happens when people come together around a shared purpose. With more than a decade of nonprofit leadership experience, Kayla is committed to developing leaders, strengthening partnerships, and creating innovative solutions that expand opportunity for children and the communities that support them.

Kayla began her career in child advocacy as Development Coordinator at the Monongalia County Child Advocacy Center before serving as Executive Director of CASA for Kids of Monongalia and Preston Counties. There, she led the organization's growth and long-term sustainability, strengthening its ability to advocate for children experiencing abuse and neglect. Leading a community nonprofit through both challenge and opportunity shaped her leadership philosophy and gave her a deep appreciation for the resilience of children, families, and the organizations that serve them.

Since joining The EdVenture Group in 2021, Kayla has helped advance the organization's growth through new initiatives, expanded statewide and national partnerships, and

collaborative programs that strengthen the systems supporting children and families. She is proud to work alongside a talented team whose expertise, creativity, and shared commitment continue to drive The EdVenture Group's mission and impact. Her work includes serving as Project Director of the West Virginia Family Engagement Center, co-developing the Leaders Investing in Family Engagement (L.I.F.E.) program, establishing the organization's Prevention & Resilience Portfolio, and advancing collaborative efforts focused on family engagement, prevention, youth leadership, career readiness, and supporting kinship caregivers and grandfamilies.

Whether leading an organization, launching a new initiative, or bringing partners together to solve a complex challenge, Kayla is guided by the same belief: meaningful change happens when people have the opportunity to lead, contribute, and build something together.

Kayla earned her Master of Public Administration from West Virginia University and her Bachelor of Arts in Multidisciplinary Studies with emphases in Leadership Studies, Entrepreneurship, and Communication. She completed the Executive Leadership Certificate through Duke University's Fuqua School of Business Executive

Education. She continues to serve children and families as a CASA volunteer and mentor with Harbor 58, staying connected to the work that inspired her career.