



Mercy Education
System of the Americas

New Mercy Leader
Orientation Program

2019-2020

New Mercy Leader Orientation Program 2019-2020 Schedule

DATE & TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTER(S)
September 4, 1-2 pm EST	Introductions (for new MESA administrators only)	MESA Staff
September 9, 11 am-12:30 pm EST or September 11, 6-7:30 pm EST	Catherine McAuley, the Mercy Charism and Mission	Mary Sullivan, RSM
November 4, 11 am-12:30 pm EST or November 6, 6-7:30 pm EST	Evaluations	Mary Lang Martha Tedesco
December 2, 11 am-12:30 pm EST or December 4, 6-7:30 pm EST	Strategic Planning	Terry Quinn
February 3, 11 am-12:30 pm EST or February 5, 6-7:30 pm EST	Governance	Margaret Taylor, RSM
April 20, 11 am-12:30 pm EST or April 22, 6-7:30 pm EST	Reflections on MESA's Relationship with the Church	Sharon Euart, RSM

Each topic is offered twice, except for the Introductions. When you register, you will pick the date that works best with your calendar. All sessions are offered via BlueJeans, a web-conferencing platform. You will receive connection instructions and any supporting materials once you register. There will be a maximum of 30 participants for each session.

[Register Here](#)

[Learn About More MESA Programs](#)



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The New Mercy Leader Orientation Program is intended for all new leaders, whether school administrator and/or board chair. These new leaders will participate in the orientation program over a two-year period, attending five sessions per year. In addition to the new leaders, seasoned leaders are accompanying the new leaders through the orientation process. Ideally, the new leaders will form their own “cohort” group for future collegiality and collaboration.

What Will We Cover?

Catherine McAuley, the Mercy Charism and Mission

This presentation will describe the charism as a gift of God that characterized and enabled Catherine McAuley’s life and work, and will characterize and enable the life and work of all in the Mercy family who follow her example and respond to the Gospel mission of Mercy as she did. The presentation will address why Catherine McAuley might be appealing to all Mercy educators and what Catherine’s attitudes and actions would be with respect to Mercy education today. Sister Mary will also address what Mercy education now needs in terms of a global perspective, a recognition of our oneness with our Earth, and explicit efforts to overcome racism through the Mercy Critical Concerns.

Evaluations

This presentation will offer best practices on completing board, administrator and staff evaluations. It will emphasize the following characteristics of effective evaluations: annual process, clear and rigorous expectations, multiple measures, multiple ratings, regular feedback and significance.

Strategic Planning

Strategic planning is a critical method used by successful schools. It is often a requirement for boards of trustees of Mercy ministries. This session will introduce the essential elements of a strategic plan. Participants will learn about the process of getting stakeholders involved in strategic planning, identifying the critical needs of the ministry, designing strategic intents to address the needs and implementing a timeline to address the strategic intents.

Governance

Sister Margaret Taylor will answer the question of why we have MESA. She will describe the nonprofit corporation and its uses and will explain the legal relationship of the schools to the Sisters of Mercy, the role of the board vis-à-vis MESA and the legal responsibilities of the board of a nonprofit corporation. Her presentation will also cover the roles and responsibilities of local boards of trustees, standards of conduct and the “art” of being a good board member.

Reflections on MESA’s Relationship with the Church

This presentation will include reflections on Vatican II’s teaching on what it means to be Church; participation in the mission of Christ; sponsorship of MESA by the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas and the canonical relationship of MESA to the Institute; Catholic and Mercy identity; and practical issues that arise from our relationship to the Church.

2019-2020 Presenters



Sister Sharon Euart, RSM, holds Master's Degrees in Liberal Arts and in Administration and Supervision from Johns Hopkins University and a Doctorate in Canon Law from the Catholic University of America. She currently serves as Executive Director of the Resource Center for Religious Institutes in Silver Spring, Maryland., and is a consultant to the USCCB Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations. She previously served as Associate General Secretary for the USCCB and Executive Coordinator of the Canon Law Society of America. She also taught in the School of Canon Law at the Catholic University of America. She is a former president of the Canon Law Society of America and is a recipient of the Society's Role of Law Award.



Mary Lang joined the Assumption High School community in 2014. As president, Mary has been a visionary leader guiding Assumption into the future. In addition to her many responsibilities as president, Mary also participates in Rotary Louisville. Furthermore, she is always willing to interact with students and assist where needed. In previous years, Mary has traveled with students to Washington, D.C., for Mercy Youth Leadership and to Ireland for an international study abroad trip. Mary received a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Immaculata College. She also received a Masters in Health Administration and a Juris Doctor from St. Louis University.



Terry Quinn is a member of the MESA Board of Directors and most recently served as the principal of Our Lady of Mercy School for Young Women in Rochester, New York. Prior to this, he held a variety of positions within Brighton Central School District including teacher, department chair, director of technology, assistant principal and principal and oversaw a \$12 million middle school renovation. During his time at Mercy, he implemented two major strategic plans and curriculum maps for all areas. He also revised the observation and evaluation system and supervised over \$12 million of expansion and renovation.

2019-2020 Presenters



Sister Mary Sullivan taught at St. Charles Borromeo, Greece; St. Louis, Pittsford; and Our Lady of Mercy High School, Brighton. At the college level she taught at Catherine McAuley College where she served as president from 1965-68; Marymount College, Tarrytown; and Rochester Institute of Technology. After almost 40 years of full-time teaching and administration in higher education, she is now professor emerita of literature and dean emerita of the College of Liberal Arts at RIT, where she still occasionally teaches. She is the author or editor of several books and articles on Catherine McAuley and the history of the Sisters of Mercy and is a frequent lecturer and retreat director on these topics.



Sister Margaret Taylor was appointed as the first Director of Sponsorship for the Mid-Atlantic Community in 2007. Previous positions include Assistant Director of the Office for Community Development for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia; teaching and administration in elementary and secondary schools; and the practice of law with the Philadelphia legal services agency. She has been a trustee and officer for numerous health care, education, legal, and social services organizations, including Project HOME, the Philadelphia Association of Community Development Corporations, Catholic Health Care East, Mercy Health System, and Gwynedd Mercy University.



Martha Tedesco is in her 25th year at Assumption High School, excluding her years as an AHS student. As principal, Martha handles all the day-to-day activities at Assumption, ensuring students are focused on learning and teachers on teaching. She has been recognized as an Assumption Model of Mercy and a 2015 *Business First* 20 People to Know in Education. Furthermore, Martha has been instrumental in the implementation of Professional Learning Communities at Assumption High School. Martha received her Bachelor of Arts degree in English and History with Secondary Education certification from Bellarmine University and a Master of Education in Educational Leadership and Administration from the University of Louisville.

Looking Ahead: 2020-2021

For those of you just beginning the two-year cycle, the program will continue in 2020-2021 with five additional sessions, listed below. More information about these sessions will be shared in **Summer 2020**.

1. Governance
2. Servant Leadership
3. Ethical Decision-Making
4. Crisis Communications / Management
5. Human Resources Practices

Also, be sure to mark the following MESA events on your calendar:

October 17, 2019

Annual Administrators Meeting
Oklahoma City, OK

October 18-19, 2019

Mercy Education Conference
Oklahoma City, OK

February 27, 2020

Leadership Forum
Atlanta, Georgia

July 27-28, 2020

Partners in Ministry Leadership Academy
Location TBD

