

***Barbara R. Blackburn, Blackburn Consulting Group***

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*[www.barbarablackburnonline.com](http://www.barbarablackburnonline.com)*

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**Professional Experience: University and College Teaching**

University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Assistant Professor.  
2009---2010.

Winthrop University. Associate Professor and Coordinator of  
Middle Grades Education Graduate Program, 2000---2009.

University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Lecturer, 1998---  
2000. Coordinator, M.Ed., Option Two (Preservice Teacher  
Education) Program, 1999---2000. Teaching responsibilities  
included undergraduate courses in Children's Literature and  
Language Arts, and graduate level supervision courses.

**Professional Experience: Related Areas**

President, Blackburn Consulting Group, 1998--current.

Marketing Representative and Curriculum Specialist,  
Scholastic, Inc., 1994---1997.

Regional Marketing Manager, Jostens Learning Corporation,  
1992---1994.

Educational Consultant, Scott Foresman, 1988---1992.

**Professional Experience: Public School Teaching**

Crest Junior High School, Cleveland County Schools, Shelby, NC,

1983---1988. Teaching responsibilities included language arts (regular and remediation classes) social studies, journalism, and photography.

Marion Elementary School, McDowell County Schools, Marion, NC, 1983. Teaching responsibilities included reading, math, science, and social studies.

Jefferson Elementary School, Shelby City Schools, Shelby, NC, 1983. Responsibilities Included working as a Title One Reading Assistant.

North Carolina Licensure: Elementary School Teaching, Middle School Language Arts and Social Studies Teaching; School Administration (Principalship).

### **Educational Record**

Ph.D. Curriculum and Teaching, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, 2000.

M.A. School Administration and Middle School Language Arts, Gardner---Webb University, Boiling Springs, NC, 1987.

B.S. Education, Kindergarten---Grade Nine, concentrations in Language Arts and Social Studies, Gardner---Webb University, Boiling Springs, NC, 1982.

### **Honors and Awards**

Top 30 Global Gurus in Education, 2016, 2017, and 2018.

Educator's Choice Content Award, SmartBrief, 2017.

Outstanding Junior Professor Award, Winthrop University, 2006.

Blackburn, B. Short Vitae, 2018

Inducted into the Distinguished Gallery of Graduates, Garner-Webb University, 2006.

Consultant of the Year, Southeast Region, Scott Foresman, 1990.

Teacher of the Year, Crest Junior High School, 1984---1985.

Runner---up Teacher of the Year, Cleveland County Schools, 1984---1985.

## **Publications**

### **Books**

Blackburn, B. & Armstrong, A. (2019). Rigor in the 6-12 math and science classroom. New York: Routledge.

Blackburn, B. & Miles, M. (2019). Rigor in the 6-12 language arts and social studies classroom. New York: Routledge.

Blackburn, B. (2018). Quick reference guide to instructional rigor. Alexandria, VA: Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.

Blackburn, B. (2018). Rigor and differentiation in the classroom. New York: Routledge.

Blackburn, B. (2018). Rigor is not a four-letter word. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. New York: Routledge.

Blackburn, B. and Witzel, B. (2018). Rigor in the RTI/MTSS Classroom. New York: Routledge.

Blackburn, B. (2017). Rigor and assessment in the classroom. New York: Routledge.

Blackburn, B. (2016). Classroom instruction from A to Z (2<sup>nd</sup>

edition). New York: Routledge.

Blackburn, B. (2016). *Motivating struggling learners: 10 Ways to build student success*. New York: Routledge.

Blackburn, B. (2014). *Rigor in your classroom: A toolkit for teachers*. New York: Routledge.

Blackburn, B. and Witzel, B. (2013). *Rigor for Students with Special Needs*. New York: Routledge.

Blackburn, B. (2013). *Rigor is not a four letter word (2<sup>nd</sup> edition)*. New York: Routledge.

Blackburn, B. (2012). *Rigor made easy: An introduction*. New York: Routledge.

Blackburn, R., Blackburn, B., & Williamson, R. (2017). *Advocacy from A to Z*. New York: Routledge.

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (2017). *Rigor in your school: A toolkit for leaders*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. New York: Routledge.

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (2016). *The principalship from A to Z*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. New York: Routledge.

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (2011). *Rigor in your school: A toolkit for leaders*. New York: Routledge.

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (2010). *Rigorous schools and classrooms: Leading the way*. New York: Routledge.

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (2010). *Study Guide: The principalship from A to Z*. New York: Routledge.

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (2009). *The principalship from A to Z*. New York: Routledge.

Blackburn, B. (2008). *Rigor is NOT a four---Letter word*. New

York: Routledge.

Blackburn, B. (2008). *Literacy from A to Z*. New York: Routledge.

Blackburn, B. (2007). *Classroom instruction from A to Z: How to promote student learning*. New York: Routledge.

Blackburn, B. (2007). *Study guide for classroom instruction from A to Z: How to promote student learning*. New York: Routledge.

Blackburn, B. (2006). *Study guide for classroom motivation from A to Z: Engaging your students in learning*. New York: Routledge.

Blackburn, B. (2005). *Classroom motivation from A to Z: Engaging your students in learning*. New York: Routledge.

### **Sample National/International Publications**

Blackburn, B. & Williamson, R. (2018). Leading change in your school: A sustainable process. *Australian Educational Leader*.

Blackburn, B. (2018). 3 principles for engaging students. *UKED Magazine*.

Blackburn, B., Armstrong, A. & Miles, M. (2018). Using writing to spark learning in math, science, and social studies. *ASCD Express*.

Blackburn, B. (2017). Increasing rigor in your schools: 3 tools for leaders. *Australian Educational Leader*

Blackburn, B. & Armstrong, A. (2017). Setting the stage for intrinsic motivation. *ASCD Express*.

Blackburn, B. (2017). Right-sized rigor. *ASCD Express*.

Blackburn, B. (2015). Teaching grit in the classroom. *UKED Magazine*.

Blackburn, B. & Williamson, R. (2015). Providing professional development on a budget. *District Administration*.

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (2013). Five collaborative professional learning activities. *Communicator*. (37) 2.

Blackburn, B. & Armstrong, A. (2011). Motivation: It's all about me. *Momentum*, 63(1), 42-43.

Blackburn, B. & Williamson, R. (2011). Four myths of rigor. *The Charter Voice*.

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (2010). Recognizing rigor in the classroom: 4 tools for school leaders. *Principal Leadership*.

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (2010). Dealing with resistance to change. *Principal Leadership*, 73---75.

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (2010). Sustaining a vision of rigor. *Principal Leadership*. 78---80.

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (2010). Supporting student learning. *Principal Leadership*, 76---78.

Blackburn, B. & Williamson, R. (2010). Press forward with professional development. *Principal Leadership*, 10(5), 68---70

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (2010). Tools to advocate for your school. *Principal Leadership*, 10(6), 61---63

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (2009). Increasing rigor. *Principal Leadership*, 28---31.

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (2009). Adding rigor. *Principal Leadership*, 10(1), 60--- 62.

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (2009). A school culture audit. *Principal Leadership*, 10(2), 60---62.

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (2009). Personal and shared vision: A commitment to increased rigor. *Principal Leadership*, 10(3), 56---58

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (2009). Data: More than numbers. *Principal Leadership*, 10(4), 64---66

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (October, 2006). Leadership for effective teaming. *Middle Matters* 15 (2).

### **Sample State/Regional Publications**

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (2018). Leading school change: Culture, ownership, and shared vision. *Texas Study of Secondary Education* (27) 2. 9-12.

Blackburn, B. & Williamson, R. (2018). Teacher-focused collaborative professional development. *Leadership Magazine (California Association of School Administrators)*.

Blackburn, B. (2017). Understanding and building motivation for struggling students. *Instructional Leader*, 31 (3), 1-5.

Blackburn, B. (2017). Rigor and assessment in the classroom. *Instructional Leader*, 30 (4), 1-5.

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (2016). Effective tools for using social media. *Instructional Leader*, 29 (5), 8-12.

Blackburn, B. (2016). Four instructional strategies that impact achievement. *Instructional Leader*, 29 (4), 1-2.

Blackburn, B. & Armstrong, A. (2015). Four instructional strategies that impact achievement. *Instructional Leader*, 28

(4), 1-5.

Blackburn, B. & Williamson, R. (2015). Five tools for collaborative professional development. *Curriculum in Context*.

Blackburn, B. and Witzel, B. (2013). Supporting rigor for students with special needs. *Instructional Leader*, 26 (4), 10-12.

Blackburn, B. and Williamson, R. (2013). Four steps to increasing rigor in the classroom. *Leadership*. 42 (4), 8-9.

Blackburn, B. (2013). Rigor and the common core state standards: Just the beginning. Spring Issue, *SEEN Magazine*.

Blackburn, B. (2012). Motivating students to succeed. *SEEN Magazine*.

Blackburn, B. (2012). Myths of rigor. *Instructional Leader*, 25 (6), 4-9.

Williamson, R. & Blackburn, B. (2009). Beginnings and endings: A reflection of school culture. *Instructional Leader*, 22(4), 6---9.

Blackburn, B. & Williamson, R. (2009). The characteristics of a rigorous classroom. *Instructional Leader*, 22(6), 6---9.

Blackburn, B. (2007). Motivating middle level students. *South Carolina Middle School Association Journal* (XIV).

Blackburn, B. & Norton, T. (2004). Content Area Literacy: One District's Efforts to Integrate Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum. *South Carolina Middle School Association Journal* (XII).

Blackburn, B., Johnson---Taylor, C., & Young, E. (2004). Effective communication: The foundation of an internship experience. *Teacher Education Journal of South Carolina*.



Blackburn, B., Medford, L., Pendarvis, P., & Splittgerber, F. (2004). A research agenda for middle level education in South Carolina. Columbia, South Carolina: The South Carolina Middle School Association.

Blackburn, B., Cooley, C., & Young, E. (2003). Effective communication: The key to a successful internship experience. *Teacher as Leader* (5).

Blackburn, B. (2003). Authentic assessment in a culture of high---stakes testing: One district's experience. *South Carolina Middle School Association Journal* (XI), 1, 35--- 37.

Blackburn, B. (2002). Beginning the change process: One district's look at grading. *Teacher as Leader* (4), 25---28.

Blackburn, B. (2002). The Forum to Accelerate Middle---Grades Reform: A Force for Middle Level Education. *South Carolina Middle School Association Journal* (X),1, 18--- 19.

## **Sample Online Publications**

Regular Columnist, Teachers.net, 2011-2018.

Dr. Blackburn has written over 40 articles for online outlets, such as Middleweb, TeachThought, and MindRocket Media.

## **Presentations**

### **Sample National/International Presentations**

Blackburn, B. (2017). Keynote Address. Australian Council of Educational Leaders (ACEL). Sydney, Australia.

Blackburn, B. (2017). Scaffolding strategies for the young and the restless. Southern Regional Education Board National Staff

Development Conference.

Blackburn, B. (2017). Rigorous instruction: Mini professional development sessions. Southern Regional Education Board National Staff Development Conference.

Blackburn, B. (2015). Rigor for students with special needs. Southern Regional Education Board National Staff Development Conference.

Motivating struggling learners: 10 ways to build success. Southern Regional Education Board National Staff Development Conference.

Blackburn, B. (2014). Rigor and the Common Core State Standards. Learning Forward National Conference.

Blackburn, B. (2014). Rigor for struggling students. Southern Regional Education Board National Staff Development Conference.

Blackburn, B. (2013). Content literacy strategies for the young and the restless. Southern Regional Education Board National Staff Development Conference.

Blackburn, B. (2014). Rigorous schools and classrooms: Leading the way. National Association of Elementary School Principals Conference.

Blackburn, B. (2014). Rigorous schools and classrooms: Preconference Session. National Association of Elementary School Principals Conference.

### **Technology-Based Presentations**

Rigorous Assessment. (2018). 3-part webinar series for the Australia Council for Educational Leaders.

Instructional Rigor. (2018). 3-part webinar series for the

Australia Council for Educational Leaders.

Rigor is NOT a Four-Letter Word. (2018). Skype session for elementary school teachers. Smyrna Primary School, Tennessee.

Rigorous Assessments. (2018). 2-part Skype sessions coaching teachers (grades 3-5) to add rigor to benchmark testing. Smyrna Primary School, Tennessee.

Rigor is NOT a Four-Letter Word. (2018). Skype session for high school teachers. Caswell County Schools, North Carolina.

Instructional Rigor and Rigorous Assessments. (2016). ½ day Skype session presenting information and facilitating group review and revision of assessments. Hampton Charter School, Georgia.

### **Sample Invited Addresses**

Blackburn, B. (2018). Keynote Address and Breakout Sessions. Region 18 Education Service Center. Midland, Texas.

Blackburn, B. (2018). Master Class Leader and Breakout Session. Texas Elementary Principals' and Supervisors' Association. Austin, Texas.

Blackburn, B. (2018). Keynote Address and Breakout Sessions. Project Teach, Southeastern Oklahoma State University. Durant, Oklahoma.

Blackburn, B. (2017). Keynote Address. Teachers' Institute, Arizona Department of Education. Phoenix, Arizona.

Blackburn, B. (2017). Keynote Address. Learning Forward of Pennsylvania. Hershey, Pennsylvania.

Blackburn, B. (2017). Keynote Address. Houston Independent

School District, Houston, Texas.

Blackburn, B. (2016). Keynote Address. Educational Service Center 20. San Antonio, Texas.

Blackburn, B. (2016). Keynote Address. Engaging the Brain Conference. San Francisco, California.

Blackburn, B. (2016). Keynote Address. Wyoming Association of School Administrators. Cody, Wyoming.

Blackburn, B. (2015). Keynote Address. Galveston Independent School District, Galveston, Texas.

Blackburn, B. (2015). Rigor is not a four-letter word. Southwest Ohio High Schools that Work. Cincinnati, Ohio.

Blackburn, B. (2015). Rigor in the STEM classroom. McGraw Hill STEM Symposium.

Blackburn, B. (2014). Keynote Address. Accomack Teaching and Learning Conference, Accomack, Virginia.

Blackburn, B. (2014). Literacy strategies for the young and the restless. Summer Leadership Institute, Houston, Texas.

Blackburn, B. (2014). Keynote Address. Arizona Association for Supervision, Curriculum and Development.

Blackburn, B. (2014). Rigor is not a four-letter word. McGraw Hill Literacy Symposium.

### **Sample Regional Presentations**

Blackburn, B. (2016). Rigor is not a four-letter word. Heart of Georgia Regional Educational Services Agency.

Blackburn, B. (2016). Rigor for students with special needs. Region 4 Educational Services Center, Houston, Texas.

Blackburn, B. (2016). Motivating struggling learners. University of Albany: New York State Master Teacher Program, Albany, New York.

Blackburn, B. (2013). Keynote Address. Ohio North Central Region of the Southern Regional Education Board Summer Conference. Ohio.

Blackburn, B. (2013). Rigor for students with special needs. Ohio North Central Region of the Southern Regional Education Board Summer Conference. Ohio.

Blackburn, B. (2004). Elements of high---performing middle schools. Presentation at the “I Teach” Regional Conference, Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Blackburn, B. (2004). Content area reading strategies for the young and the restless. Presentation at the “I Teach” Regional Conference, Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Blackburn, B. (1991). The role of encouragement. Presentation at the Southeastern Regional International Reading Association Conference, Winston---Salem, North Carolina.

### **Sample State Presentations**

Blackburn, B. (2017). Multiple rigor presentations. Connections Conference for Career and Technical Teachers, Chicago, Illinois.

Blackburn, B. (2016). Rigor in your school. Texas Elementary Principals Association.

Blackburn, B. (2016). Rigor for students with special needs. Texas Elementary Principals Association.

Blackburn, B. (2015). Motivating struggling learners. Texas

Elementary Principals Association.

Blackburn, B. (2015). Rigor in the classroom. Texas Elementary Principals Association.

Blackburn, B. (2015). Motivating struggling learners. Texas Association of Secondary School Principals.

Blackburn, B. (2015). Rigorous schools and classrooms: Leading the way. Texas Association of Secondary School Principals.

Blackburn, B. (2014). Rigorous schools and classrooms: Leading the way. Texas Elementary Principals Association.

Blackburn, B. (2014). Rigor for students with special needs. Texas Elementary Principals Association.

Blackburn, B. (2014). Rigorous schools and classrooms: Leading the way. Texas Association of Secondary School Principals.

Blackburn, B. (2014). Rigor for students with special needs. Texas Association of Secondary School Principals.

Blackburn, B. (2014). Rigor made easy. Texas Association of Secondary School Principals.

Blackburn, B. (2014). Rigor for Teachers. Arizona Association for Supervision, Curriculum and Development.

Blackburn, B. (2014). Rigorous schools and classrooms: Leading the way. Arizona Association for Supervision, Curriculum and Development.

### **Sample Online Presentations**

Blackburn, B. (2017). Rigorous assessments. Texas Elementary

Principal's and Supervisor's Association.

Blackburn, B. (2016). Motivating struggling learners. Texas Elementary Principal's and Supervisor's Association.

Blackburn, B. (2015). Rigor is not a four-letter word. National Association for Secondary School Principals.

Blackburn, B. (2015). Rigor is not a four-letter word. Isaac E. Young Middle School.

Blackburn, B. (2014). Rigor for students with special needs (follow-up). Paradise Valley Unified School District.

Blackburn, B. (2013). The Common Core State Standards: Just the beginning. National Association for Secondary School Principals.

Blackburn, B. (2013). Supporting rigorous instruction in the Common Core State Standards. Eye on Education.

Blackburn, B. (2012). Motivating and engaging students. Eye on Education.

Blackburn, B. (2012). Keynote Address: Rigor and the Common Core. The Principal Center.

Blackburn, B. (2012). Keynote Address: The school leader's role in supporting the transition to the Common Core. The Principal Center.

Online course facilitator (2004), *Reading and Writing for Learning*. Southern Regional Education Board. Reviewer. (2004).

### **Sample Workshops and Consulting Activities**

Blackburn, B. (2017). Rigor in the differentiated classroom.

Accomack Schools, Accomack, Virginia.

Blackburn, B. (2017). Rigor in the career and technical classroom. C-TEC (Career-Technical Education) of Licking County, Ohio.

Blackburn, B. (2017). Rigor made easy. Highland Park Elementary School, San Antonio, Texas.

Blackburn, B. (2016-2017). Ongoing training for leaders and teachers. Rigor and assessment. Henry County Schools, McDonough, Georgia.

Blackburn, B. (2015-2016). Ongoing training for leaders, trainers, and coaches. Rigor is not a four-letter word. Charleston Pubic Schools, Charleston, South Carolina.

Blackburn, B. (2015-2016). Ongoing training for trainers and coaches. Rigor is not a four-letter word. Chatham County Schools, Pittsboro, North Carolina.

Blackburn, B. (2015). Rigor for students with special needs. Richland District One, Columbia, South Carolina.

Blackburn, B. (2015). Rigor is not a four-letter word. North Mesquite High School, Mesquite, Texas.

Blackburn, B. (2015). Rigor is not a four-letter word. Sweet Apple Elementary School, Roswell, Georgia.

Blackburn, B. (2015). Rigor is not a four-letter word. Various schools in Paradise Valley Unified School District, Phoenix, Arizona.

Blackburn, B. (2015). Ongoing follow-up presentations. Monson Pubic Schools, Monson, Massachusetts.

Blackburn, B. (2015). Rigor is not a four-letter word. Sculptor Charter School, Florida.



Blackburn, B. (2015). Train the Trainer: Rigor is not a four-letter word. Rutherford County Schools, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Blackburn, B. (2015). Rigor is not a four-letter word. Various schools in Rutherford County Schools, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Blackburn, B. (2015-2016). Ongoing training for leaders, trainers, and teachers (middle and high school). Rigor is not a four-letter word. Williamson County Schools, Franklin, Tennessee.

Blackburn, B. (2015). Ongoing training for leaders, trainers, and teachers. Rigor is not a four-letter word. Killeen Independent School District, Killeen, Texas.

Blackburn, B. (2015-2016). Ongoing training for leaders, trainers, and teachers (middle and high school). Rigor is not a four-letter word. North Little Rock Public Schools, North Little Rock, Arkansas

Blackburn, B. (2013-2014). Monthly presentations on rigor, motivation, and engagement to Instructional Leadership Teams, Project LIFT, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, North Carolina.

Blackburn, B. (2013-2014). Selected presentations on rigor, culture, change, and leadership to principals, Project LIFT, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, North Carolina.

Blackburn, B. (2014). Rigor is not a four letter word. Rowan-Salisbury Schools, Salisbury, North Carolina.

Blackburn, B. (2014). Rigorous Schools and Classrooms: Leading the Way. Rowan-Salisbury Schools, Salisbury, North Carolina.