

## Dr. Thelma M. Isaacs

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### Academic

<b>Degrees:</b>	<b>Ed.S.</b>	Curriculum and Instruction Marshall University 2002
	<b>Ed.D.</b>	Educational Leadership – Major area Curriculum and Instruction – Minor area West Virginia University 2001
	<b>M.A.</b>	Educational Administration Marshall University 1999
	<b>M.S.</b>	Health and Physical Education Marshall University 1990
	<b>B.A.</b>	Secondary Education (Summa Cum Laude) Marshall University 1989

### Professional

<b>Experience:</b>	<b>2011-Present</b>	<b>Associate Dean, COEPD</b> Marshall University Huntington, WV

#### Major Duties:

- Facilitate the development, approval, and review of COEPD programs
- Secure approval for new or revised programs or changes within programs from the appropriate college/university committees and state/national agencies
- Organize preparation of the Board of Governors and Higher Education Policy Commission (HEPC) undergraduate and graduate program review of all College of Education (COE) programs
- Cultivate the accreditation process within the college
- Coordinate activities related to recruitment, retention, and orientation
- Supervise the Office of Student Services and the Office of Clinical Services
- Assist with college grant and research activities
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships and communication channels with relevant external agencies, boards, and committees related to academic programs
- Serve as a representative to state organizations as appropriate
- Represent the Dean and the COEPD at various College, University, and community events

<b>2010-2011</b>	<b>Interim Associate Dean, COEHS</b> Marshall University Huntington, WV
<b>2007-Present</b>	<b>Professor (Tenured)</b> Marshall University

	Huntington, WV Courses Taught: Secondary Classroom Management, Middle Childhood Curriculum, Methods and Materials of the Middle School, Psychology of the Middle School Student
<b>2003-2007</b>	<b>Associate Professor (Tenured 2005)</b> Marshall University Huntington, WV Courses Taught: Secondary Classroom Management, Middle Childhood Curriculum, Methods and Materials of the Middle School
<b>1999-2003</b>	<b>Assistant Professor</b> Marshall University Huntington, WV Courses Taught: Secondary Classroom Management, Middle Childhood Curriculum, Methods and Materials of the Middle School
<b>1993-1999</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts Teacher</b> Putnam County Schools Winfield, WV
<b>1992-1993</b>	<b>High School English Teacher</b> Putnam County Schools Winfield, WV
<b>1990-1992</b>	<b>K-8 Health/Physical Education Teacher</b> Our Lady of Fatima School Huntington, WV

**Professional  
Affiliations:**

American Educational Research Association  
Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development  
Kappa Delta Pi  
National Council of Teachers of English  
National Middle School Association  
Phi Delta Kappa  
WV Association of Middle Level Educators  
West Virginia Council of Teachers of Mathematics  
West Virginia Reading Council

**Selected  
Presentations &  
Publications:**

**Journal Articles:**

- **Isaacs, T.,** Corrigan, M., & Klein, T. (2023). Sugar and spice?: Youth, gender, and self-perceived character development. Paper prepared for review with the *Journal of Moral Education*.
- Corrigan, M. W., Klein, T., & **Isaacs, T.** (2011). Trust Us: Investigating the Instructional Power of Students' Trust in Teachers. *Journal of Research in Character Education*, 8(2).

### **Regional and National Presentations:**

- Rowe, K., **Isaacs, T.,** Nichols, A., & Browning, T. (2025). "Leveraging advising week to boost recruitment and graduation rates." Paper presented at the Eastern Educational Research Association (EERA) annual conference in Hilton Head, SC.
- Browning, T., **Isaacs, T.,** Nichols, A., & Rowe, K. (2024). "Transformative shifts in academic advising: Utilizing advising week to cultivate connection." Paper presented at the Eastern Education Research Association (EERA) annual conference in Sarasota, FL.
- Rowe, K., **Isaacs, T.,** & Nichols, A. (2023). "Advisor perceptions of technology in WV educator preparation programs." Paper presented at the 2023 Eastern Educational Research Association annual conference. Hilton Head, SC.
- Preece, A., **Isaacs, T.,** Rowe, K., & Nichols, A. (2023). "Comparison of yearlong residency and traditional student teaching models: A case study." Paper presented at the 2023 Eastern Educational Research Association annual conference. Hilton Head, SC.
- Rowe, K., **Isaacs, T.,** & Nichols, A. (2022). "Advisor perceptions of technology in academic advising." Paper presented at the 2022 Eastern Educational Research Association annual conference. Virtual.
- Preece, A., Rowe, K., Nichols, A., & **Isaacs, T.** (2022). Answering the call: Student teachers fill critical shortage during pandemic." Paper presented at the 2022 Eastern Educational Research Association annual conference. Virtual.
- Napier, K., **Isaacs, T.,** Nichols, A., & Lucas, P. (2021). "Measuring success by the seeds we plant – Robert Louis Stevenson: One institution's experience with alumni tracking." Paper presented at the 2021 Eastern Educational Research Association annual conference. Virtual.
- Napier, K., **Isaacs, T.,** Nichols, A., & Lucas, P. (2020). "The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time: Finding Praxis success through the POST tutoring center." Paper presented at the 2020 Eastern Educational Research Association annual conference. Orlando, FL.
- Napier, K., **Isaacs, T.,** Nichols, A., & Lucas, P. (2019). "I am not what happened to me, I am what I choose to become – Carl Jung: Training teacher candidates to work with children of trauma." Paper presented at the 2019 Eastern Educational Research Association annual conference. Myrtle Beach, SC.

- Napier, K., **Isaacs, T.**, Nichols, A., & Lucas, P. (2018). "Communication works for those who work at it – John Powell: One institution's experiences with creating and implementing an online PLC to improve communication." Paper presented at the 2018 Eastern Educational Research Association annual conference. Clearwater, FL.
- Napier, K., **Isaacs, T.**, Nichols, A., & Lucas, P. (2017). "You cannot not communicate: One institution's experience with creating an online PLC to improve communication." Paper presented at the 2017 Eastern Educational Research Association annual conference. Richmond, VA.
- Napier, K., **Isaacs, T.**, Nichols, A., & Lucas, P. (2016). "If winning is everything, then we better keep accurate scores: One institution's experience with PPAT." Paper presented at the 2016 Eastern Educational Research Association annual conference. Hilton Head, SC.
- **Isaacs, T.**, Lucas, P., Nichols, A., & Backus, M. (2015). "Only the best will do: How do educator preparation providers move away from the status quo in admission requirements? In what ways should ACT and GPA scores be valued as selectivity factors?" Paper presented at the 2015 Eastern Educational Research Association annual conference. Sarasota, FL.
- **Isaacs, T.**, Lucas, P., Nash, J., Nichols, A. (2014). "Teacher candidate development: How does reflective self-assessment influence dispositional growth and the capacity for professional thinking? How can program entry and exit surveys be used as measurements?" Paper presented at the 2014 Eastern Educational Research Association annual conference. Jacksonville, FL.
- **Isaacs, T.**, Lucas, P., Gebrehiwot, H., & Nichols, A. (2013). "Assessing the student teaching experience: How are TCWS and capstone presentations connected, and in what ways do they demonstrate teacher candidate knowledge, skills, and dispositions?" Paper presented at the 2013 Eastern Educational Research Association annual conference. Sarasota, FL.
- **Isaacs, T.**, Lucas, P., & Gebrehiwot, H. (2012). "Teacher candidate dispositions: How do we embed them in teacher preparation programs? Where do dispositions fit into the curriculum and clinical practice?" Paper presented at the 2012 Eastern Educational Research Association annual conference. Hilton Head, SC.
- Backus, M., Sottile, J., **Isaacs, T.**, Murphy, R., & Watts, K. (2011). "Teacher professional development through collaboration, application, and reciprocal teaching to increase student achievement." Paper presented at the 2011 Eastern Educational Research Association annual conference. Sarasota, FL.
- **Isaacs, T.**, Corrigan, M., & Murphy, R. (2010). Developing an integrated character education approach. Paper presented at the 2010 annual meeting of the Eastern Educational Research Association (EERA). Savannah, GA.

- Corrigan, M., Grove, D., & **Isaacs, T.** (2008). "Introducing the character education infusion instrument: Today's process evaluation tool for character education." Presentation at the CEP National Forum on Character Education. Washington, DC.
- Murphy, R., **Isaacs, T.**, & Hurley, J. (2008). "Strengths and weaknesses in teacher preparation programs." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Educational Research Association (EERA). Hilton Head, SC.
- Brown, N., Frontera, L., & **Isaacs, T.** (2007). "From CSOs to GPAs: Character education's impact." Presentation at the CEP National Forum on Character Education. Washington, DC.
- **Isaacs, T.**, Murphy, R., & Backus, M. (2007). "What impact do gender and content area specialization have on the classroom management factors considered to be of greatest concern to secondary pre-service teacher candidates?" Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Educational Research Association (EERA). Clearwater, FL.
- Murphy, R., **Isaacs, T.**, Lucas, P., & Johnson, C. (2007). "What are the perceived strengths and weaknesses of elementary student teachers with regards to classroom management?" Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Educational Research Association (EERA). Clearwater, FL.
- McKee, J., **Isaacs, T.**, & Nash, J. (2006). "Preparing teachers for assessing all children." Paper presented at the 2006 AACTE Annual Meeting and Exhibits. San Diego, CA.
- Murphy, R., **Isaacs, T.**, McKee, J., & Johnson, C. (2006). "What factors related to classroom management are identified by elementary and secondary pre-service teacher candidates as being of greatest concern as they prepare to enter the teaching profession?" Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Educational Research Association (EERA). Hilton Head, SC.
- **Isaacs, T.**, Murphy, R., & Sottile, J. (2005). "What critical thinking elements do student perceive as important characteristics in a teacher education training program?" Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Educational Research Association (EERA). Sarasota, FL.
- **Isaacs, T.** (2004). "Testing the middle school concept: What are the key practices and how do they impact school achievement?" Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Educational Research Association (EERA). Clearwater, FL.
- **Isaacs, T.**, Sottile, J., Murphy, R., & Lucas, P. (2003). "What characteristics do pre-service teachers report a good teacher should have to empower learners?" Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Educational Research Association (EERA). Hilton Head, SC.

- Murphy, R., Sottile, J., & **Isaacs, T.** (2003). "What do pre-service elementary education teachers think about mathematics: Is self-efficacy really an issue?" Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Educational Research Association (EERA). Hilton Head, SC.

#### **State Presentations:**

- **Isaacs, T.,** & Nash, J. (2014). "Reflective self-assessments: What do the data say about candidate progress?" Presentation proposal for the 2014 West Virginia State Professional Development School Conference. Flatwoods, WV
- **Isaacs, T.,** Nash, J., & James, K. (2013). "Student teaching capstones: What works best for teacher candidates?" Presentation at the 2013 West Virginia State Professional Development School Conference. Flatwoods, WV.
- **Isaacs, T.,** & Mitchell, A. (2010). "School-based substance abuse interventions for rural adolescents." Paper presented at PRESTERA Center Substance Abuse Workshop. Dunbar, WV.
- **Isaacs, T.,** & Corrigan, M. (2009). Analyzing data to improve character and school climate. Presentation at the West Virginia State Character Education Conference. Charleston, WV.
- Corrigan, M., & **Isaacs, T.** (2009). The dimensional model. Presentation at the West Virginia State Character Education Conference. Charleston, WV.
- Murphy, R., & **Isaacs, T.** (2009). Concept attainment and critical thinking in your classroom. Presentation at the Ohio Council of Teachers of Mathematics 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference. Cincinnati, OH.
- **Isaacs, T.,** Totten, W., Meadows, M., & Kline, K. (2008). "Character education: Video games and the transescent." Proposal accepted for presentation at the 2008 WVAMLE annual conference. Daniels, WV.
- **Isaacs, T.,** & Wolf, M. (2007). "Technology for middle schoolers: What's the best approach to implementation?" Presentation at the 2007 WVAMLE annual conference. Daniels, WV.
- Murphy, R., & **Isaacs, T.** (2007). "Fat chance: What's the probability of that?" Presentation at the 2007 WVCTM annual conference. Flatwoods, WV.
- **Isaacs, T.,** Murphy, R., & Lee, S. (2006). "Content, process, and product: Differentiated instruction for middle school students." Presentation at the 2006 WVAMLE annual conference. Roanoke, WV.
- Murphy, R., & **Isaacs, T.** (2006). "Those fabulous fractions." Presentation at the 2006 WVCTM annual conference. Flatwoods, WV.
- **Isaacs, T.,** Murphy, R., & Watson, N. (2005). "Taking the 1<sup>st</sup> step: Student and parent reactions to the middle school transition." Presentation at the 2005 WVAMLE annual conference. Roanoke, WV.

- **Isaacs, T., & Miles, H.** (2005). "Reading to learn: Meeting the reading needs of middle school students." Presentation at the 2005 WVAMLE annual conference. Roanoke, WV.
- **Murphy, R., & Isaacs, T.** (2005). "Teaching problem solving through multiple instructional formats." Presentation at the 2005 WVCTM annual conference. Flatwoods, WV.
- **Hunter, J., & Isaacs, T.** (2004). "The power of pre-reading." Presentation at the 2004 WVAMLE annual conference. Roanoke, WV.
- **Murphy, R., & Isaacs, T.** (2003). "Why do we invert and multiply?" Presentation at the 2003 WVCTM annual conference. Flatwoods, WV.
- **Isaacs, T., & Lucas, P.** (2002). Putting West Virginia middle schools to the test: Implementation of key practices. Presentation at the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual WVAMLE Conference in April, 2002. Snowshoe, WV.
- **Isaacs, T.** (2002). The status of West Virginia middle schools: Key practice implementation. Presentation at a meeting of the Marshall University Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa. Huntington, WV.
- **Isaacs, T.** (2001). Best practices for high school English teachers. Presentation at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Effective Partnership Schools Academy. Huntington, WV.

**University  
Service:**

**NCATE/CAEP Coordinator**

2011-present

**AACC Coordinating Council**

2010-present

**COE Leadership Team**

2010-present

**COE NBCT TEAM**

2009-present

**Consultant for PDS Schools Grant**

2013-present

**Library Committee**

Member: 2005-present

**NCATE/CAEP Coordinating Committee**

2006-present

**Hedrick Award Committee**

2009-present

**Strategic Budget Workgroup**

2013-present

**Orientation Planning Committee**

2013-present

**MU Long-Range Planning Committee**

2013-present

**Academic Shared Services Task Force**

2016-present

**Registrar Search Committee**

May, 2016-July, 2016

**Early Childhood Search Committee**

July, 2014-February 2016

**Assessment Director Search Committee Chair**

July, 2014-October 2014

**COEPD Business Manager Search Committee**

October, 2014-January, 2015

**Assistant Director for Clinical Experiences Search Committee**

February, 2014-August, 2014

**Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Search Committee**

2012

**Faculty Senate**

Member: 2002-09

**Planning and Review Committee**

Member: 2001-2011

Chair: 2001-02

**NCATE Standard 1 Committee**

2008-2010

**NCATE Conceptual Framework Committee**

2008-2011

**Coordinator for NMSA Program Review**

2004-present

**Promotion and Tenure Committee for ESSR**

2007-2011

**Faculty Sponsor for Kappa Delta Pi**

2008-present

**Reynolds Award for Outstanding Teaching**

2008-2009

**Faculty Sponsor for Circle K Club**

2003-07

**UNI 101 Instructor**

Fall 2006

Fall 2005

Fall 2001

Fall 2000

**Personnel Committee**

Member: 2002-06

**ESSR Faculty Search Committee**

Member: 2007

**Assistant Director of Recreational Sports Search Committee**

Member: 2006

**COEHS Dean's Search Committee**



2004-05

**Faculty Sponsor for Women's Rugby Club**

2000-06

**Search Committee for ESSR Position**

Member: 2004

**Search Committee for EDF Position**

Member: 2004

**Assistant NCATE Coordinator**

2003-05

**Vision 2005 Goals Sub-Committee for Planning and Review**

Member: 2003-04

**Diversity Committee for Vision Goal 5**

2003-04

**NCATE Standard VI Committee**

2002-04

**NCATE Committee on Performance Tasks**

Co-Chair: 2001-02

**Search Committee for Elementary Reading Position**

2001

**Physical Facilities and Planning Committee**

2000-01

**EDF 270 Committee**

2000-01

**Search Committee for Positions 1567, 1582, 1584, & 1585**

2000

**Community  
Service:**

**RESA II Council Member**

2013-present

**WV TPA Team**

2016-present

**PDSP Middle School Leader**

2012-present

**Incubator School College Liaison**

2013-present

**InTASC-WVPTS Alignment Committee**

2014-present

**Served as Team Member for CAEP Accreditation Visit to  
West Liberty University**

Fall 2018-Spring 2019

**Served as Team Member for WVDE Accreditation Visit to  
American Public University**

Fall, 2015-Summer, 2016

**Faculty Representative for Vinson Middle School's Model  
Reform**

2008-2014

**Served as Team Member for NCATE Visit to Shepherd University**  
 October, 2010  
**It Matters in the Middle Restructuring Team**  
 2008-2010  
**Served as Team Member for WVDE Visit to Salem University**  
 February 2008  
**Served as Team Member for WVDE Visit to Appalachian Bible College**  
 October 2006  
**Served as State Member for NCATE Visit to Bluefield State College**  
 November 2005  
**State Social Studies Fair Judge**  
 2004-2008  
**Putnam County Science Fair**  
 2006 (organized students from MU's COEHS to judge)  
 2005 (served as judge)  
**Guest Lecturer for Huntington Vinson Middle School**  
 March 2006  
**Group Facilitator for Life Skills Group – Prester Center**  
 January 2006  
**Circle K Advisor (working with local Kiwanis Club)**  
 2003-present  
**Raleigh County Middle School Project**  
 Summer 2003  
**Job Shadow Volunteer – St. Joseph's Grade School**  
 2003  
**Daymark Advisor**  
 Summer 2000-Summer 2004  
**COEHS United Way Team Captain**  
 Fall 2002  
**Kanawha County Middle School Project**  
 Fall 1999 – Spring 2002  
**June Harless Center**  
 Summer 2001  
 Spring 1999  
**West Virginia Writing Assessment**  
 Summer 1999

**Grant Team  
 Member:**

**Character Education Grant for North Carolina Schools – Focus Group Specialist and Data Collection Captain**  
 2006-2010  
**Character Education Grant for Ohio Schools – Focus Group Specialist and Data Collection Captain**

**Teaching and  
Advising  
Awards:**

2006-2010

**Character Education Grant for West Virginia Schools –  
Co-Investigator**

2007-2009

**Dr. Barbara P. Guyer COEPD Annual Faculty Award for  
Excellence in Service**

2024

**Marshall and Shirley Reynolds Outstanding Teacher Award**

2006-07

**Nominee for the COEHS Outstanding Teacher Award**

2005-2006

**Empire Who's Who of Women in Education**

2006

**Quinlan Endowment**

2010

2006

**Manchester Who's Who Among Executive and Professional  
Women**

2005

**Who's Who Among America's Teachers**

2005

2004

**Gamma Beta Phi Faculty Appreciation Brunch**

2003

**Fabulous Faculty Award**

November 2002

April 2002

November 2001

November 2000

March 2000

November 1999

**Undergraduate Outstanding Advisor Award**

May 2002

**Research  
Interests:**

Teacher Preparation

Clinical Practice

Character education/Candidate Dispositions

Adolescent issues

Middle level education

Classroom management

Literacy and instructional practices in Language Arts

Improving student efficacy