



Subject Matter Expert Jennifer Meller, Ed.D.

Dr. Jennifer Meller, a Senior Consultant with PCG Education, leads PCG's efforts in providing districts with comprehensive special education program evaluations and technical assistance in the areas of staffing, stakeholder engagement, compliance, finance, data use, and best instructional practices.

Expertise

- Special Education Program Evaluation
- K-12 Education Policy
- Special Education Compliance, Technology Implementation, Finance and Operations
- Change Management and Strategic Planning

Currently, Dr. Meller focuses on supporting districts with state and federal special education compliance as well as data reporting and analysis. She also assists districts in several states to implement procedurally-compliant based special education technology systems. For more than 15 years, she has worked extensively with states, districts, schools and teachers on projects related to special education and education policy. A special education subject matter expert (SME) at PCG, Dr. Meller's experience is built upon more than 15 years of special education and education policy work in Arizona, Colorado, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Washington.

Dr. Meller also served as the project manager for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation on a research engagement while at PCG. This research was designed to inform the Foundation's Data Team about current PK-12 educational trends and develop a strategy for future grant portfolio investments.

Experience

Prior to joining PCG, Dr. Meller worked in the School District of Philadelphia as a Special Projects Manager in the Office of Management and Budget, and Director of Operations in the Office of Specialized Instructional Services. In these roles, she focused on building programs that supported student's social and emotional growth, implemented student-focused data management systems, supervised federal and state reporting, and oversaw several multi-million dollar federal grants. As part of this work, Dr. Meller led a team that provided technical assistance to more than 250 district and 70 charter schools in the Philadelphia area. The Pennsylvania Department of Education's Bureau of Special Education recognized her team's efforts with a written commendation; the team also received recognition from other urban school districts. Dr. Meller also served as a business development manager for Dale Carnegie Training, where she was responsible for creating a product line for children and teenagers. As part of this work, she taught public speaking and self-improvement courses for all ages.

Publications

Meller, J., d'Entremont, A., and Geier, R. PCG White Paper (2012): *Using Data from Special Education Management Systems to Make Districtwide Instructional Improvements* (<http://www.publicconsultinggroup.com/education2/library/index.html>)

Education

Dr. Meller earned an Ed.D. in Educational and Organizational Leadership and an MS.Ed. in Higher Education Management, both from the University of Pennsylvania. She received a B.A. in English from Dickinson College.