

Member Highlight

Dr. Amy Holcombe,
Dean of the Stout School of Education
at High Point University



WHO IS AMY HOLCOMBE?

Dr. Holcombe grew up a “military brat” and ended up in the Bay Area of California. After earning her Bachelor of Arts degree and teaching license from Sonoma State University, she moved to North Carolina where she completed three additional degrees at UNCG and NC A&T.

Her most impactful professional accomplishment is winning over \$123 million in competitive grant dollars in support of teacher, principal, and superintendent licensure and development. These dollars have positively impacted the central region of North Carolina, where she currently resides, by providing a continuous stream of talent going into our public schools. The professional accomplishment of which she is most personally proud is the publication of her book, *Strategic Talent Leadership for Educators*, because it is the culmination of what she has learned about developing educator talent in the form of a toolkit for use by educators.

WHAT IS IMPORTANT TO HER?

Amy believes that supporting women in education leadership is crucial for increasing representation and providing role models for future generations. Women bring diverse perspectives that enhance decision-making and promote innovative solutions. Addressing the inequities in leadership roles is essential, as women are often underrepresented despite being the majority of educators. By empowering women leaders, we tap into a broader talent pool and model the values of equity and inclusion that we teach our students.

WISDOM FROM AMY

“A supervisor once told me to stop operating on clock time and begin living in human time. This small piece of advice helped me to slow down and be a better listener when others came to me with concerns and needed empathy. Once I started operating on human time, the meeting was done when the person needing support felt better, not when the calendar appointment ended.”

“Seek mentorship and build a supportive network of fellow educators to share experiences and resources. Embrace continuous learning and professional development opportunities to enhance your skills and confidence, paving the way for future leadership roles.”

WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT BEING A WE LEAD MEMBER?

“Unfortunately, I have never had a mentor. This is why WE Lead is such an important organization. When women commit to mentoring and supporting other women, we grow individually and more positively impact students in our professional roles. It is refreshing to be a part of a network of women who have committed to supporting versus competing with each other.”

