

Member Highlight

Valerie Sellars

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools, North Carolina



WHO IS VALERIE SELLARS?

Valerie Sellars currently works in Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools in the Instructional Services, Equity and Engagement Department. She serves as the Secondary Science District Coach for grades 6–12. In this role, she collaborates with school leaders and teacher teams to strengthen science instruction through inquiry-based curriculum, aligned assessments, and professional learning. Her coaching has supported measurable gains in both growth and proficiency on the 8th Grade Science EOG and Biology EOC. Valerie also builds partnerships with community, industry, higher education, and state organizations that expand access to rigorous, real-world science learning and ensure equity across the school district.

Previously, she served as a STEM Specialist in Alamance-Burlington Schools, where she led a STEM-to-Work Pipeline that created Biotechnology Certificate opportunities for students through Alamance Community College. Additionally, Valerie has worked as a K–12 Science Curriculum Coordinator in Guilford County Schools. She has taught both middle and high school science. Across these varying roles, she has remained committed to equity, teacher advocacy, and helping students “Think (and Act) Like Scientists.”

Valerie aspires to expand her work in education leadership, mentor new instructional leaders, and continue building systems that promote equity in STEM. Supporting women stepping into leadership pathways is especially important to her—helping them build confidence, clarity, and strong networks.

WISDOM FROM VALERIE

“Lead from where you are. I learned early in my career that leadership is not a title — it’s influence, purpose, and service. That wisdom has guided me through classroom teaching, coaching, district work, and state-level advocacy. It reminds me that courage, consistency, and purpose open doors long before positions do.”

“I believe deeply in purpose-driven leadership, equity, and the power of women to transform educational systems. My journey is shaped by faith, service, and a commitment to ensuring every student and educator can thrive.”

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

“I love the community of women who bring honesty, transparency, and generosity into the work. WE Lead provides space to reflect, grow, stretch, and lead with authenticity. It is a network of women committed to lifting one another—and that is rare.”

