

**Don Lourcey**

Pilot Wave Initiative Director
Coordinator for Professional Teaching and Learning

Mr. Lourcey received his BA in English from Mars Hill College and MAEd in English from Western Carolina University, and his principal's license from Appalachian State University.

Mr. Lourcey is a National Board Certified teacher with over 17 years of classroom experience and over eight years of online teaching and course design experience. He previously served as an English teacher in Cumberland and Iredell counties and an online English teacher and course designer for the Cumberland County's Web Academy. Mr. Lourcey also serves as a National Board Candidate Support Provider and Assessor Trainer and a member of the National Board faculty whose responsibility is to train states and districts on the process of establishing and maintaining a foundational and ethical candidate support program. For three years, he served as lead teacher for North Iredell High where he coached and modeled for teachers the principles of continuous improvement and data analysis.

His primary duties for NCVPS/Learn and Earn Online are to extend training, coaching and support to our Pilot Wave districts and three Regional Educational Service Alliances in developing solid e-learning practices to model and showcase to the rest of the state. He also works to create e-leadership training practices for state-wide e-leaders (mainly principals, superintendents, and associate superintendents). This support includes designing coursing strategies in our Leadership Lagoon, LEA Waves, and e-Leadership Development Program Blackboard Learning Management System, holding e-learning communities with various leadership stakeholders, introducing these groups to Web 2.0 tooling strategies and the value-add such tools can bring to the individual respective leadership teams, executive cabinets, and/or professional development opportunities.

Personal Vision Statement

Students learn so differently today than they did even five years ago. We need to tap into what interests them, what engages them. We can no longer "enrage" them with rote memorization, irrelevant information, watered-down curriculum, or disconnected concepts. They need rigor, relevance, and relationships. So, we have a duty to "engage" them. Online learning is 21st century learning. I get so excited to know that I have a role and responsibility in helping principals, superintendents and other key district leaders transform thinking from 20th century paradigms to 21st century paradigms--retooling thinking, if you will. I see as one of my primary roles is to help close the digital divide and increase the e-learning knowledge gap. I am committed to moving e-leaders forward so in turn

he or she can move students forward, helping to provide resources and opportunities to facilitate future readiness in all students.