



DR. RJ WEBBER

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION
NOVI COMMUNITY SCHOOLS, NOVI, MI

“Aspirational Design, Agile Classrooms, and The Opportunity to Learn”

Dr. RJ Webber has been a passionate ally and advocate for students and teachers his entire career. He has a focus upon instructional design, curricular design, and social justice that creates space for all stakeholders to reach their potential. In 1991 RJ earned the Alma College Jerry Smith African Teaching Fellowship, committing to a year of teaching at the Mayflower Junior School in Ikenne, Nigeria. It was in Nigeria that RJ began to understand the importance of the educational environment and instructional design. While in Nigeria, RJ traveled extensively throughout West Africa. He experienced firsthand the power of education as a counter to oppression and a passport to hope.

RJ's teaching career spanned two continents and three school districts. RJ has served as a middle school assistant principal, middle school principal, and high school principal. RJ also earned honors from the Michigan Science Teachers Association as their administrator of the year in 2010.

RJ transitioned to his current role, Assistant Superintendent of Academics for the Novi Community School District, in 2010. His tenure in Novi has seen the articulation of a publicly searchable K-12 curriculum, the first of its kind in Michigan. The district has also launched extensive assessment and teacher evaluation efforts connected to the fully articulated curriculum. RJ has also led a community wide approach to social justice efforts that focus upon student and educator voice. He has partnered with the University of Michigan School of Social Work, Oakland Schools, and the Novi Community to offer training in culturally relevant instruction.

RJ has traveled to Japan, Germany, China and multiple schools throughout the United States to study innovative school design. RJ believes in a symbiotic relationship between physical space, curricular space, and emotional space to provide a path for each learner, whether teacher or student, to live the life they deserve.