



Michigan Association for the Education of Young Children

Candidate Name: Michelle Burkhard

Employment Information: Owner, Grow By 1

1) Why are you interested in serving on the Michigan AEYC Governing Board?

I'm interested in serving on the MIAEYC Governing Board because I believe in the power of giving back when you've received something. Over the last 25 years, I've received so much value from being an active member of this group that I feel an overwhelming sense of gratitude and a desire to share what I've learned and received to maximize the impact of others in the ECE field.

2) Please share any relevant professional and/or volunteer experiences within the past five years that would be applicable for this role.

The past 5 years in my professional career in ECE, include speaking, training, and coaching education leaders and professionals in-person, online, and in hybrid format. I've worked mainly with directors, administrators, higher education, and beyond in the areas of leadership, professionalism, and ensuring their coaching practices are effective and efficient.

3) Please share your knowledge, skills and abilities that would contribute to serving on the Michigan AEYC Governing Board.

I have a BS in Elementary Education and taught kindergarten and preschool. I have an MA in ECE that informed my practice as an early childhood specialist. My Ph.D. in Ed., focused on organizational change and transformational coaching practices. I regularly help school districts make improvement plans that honor each person within their system. I LOVE helping people, groups, and systems make transformational changes that respect all people at all levels

4) Please share your experience related to governance and leadership that would be applicable to this role.

As the owner of Grow By 1, I've lead hundreds of thousands of people and groups through change, whether it be in a training or coaching program, or multi-year strategic plans. I've been an Executive Director with John Maxwell for 10 years and have traveled around the world speaking with him to other educational professionals. I've also served as the Vice President for MIAEYC. I look forward to any opportunity to help, lead, guide, and serve in the ECE field to maximize the potential of EVERY person within our system.