GEORGE L. MORGAN III

SPECIAL EDUCATION | EDUCATOR PREPARATION | APPLIED RESEARCH

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ACADEMIC PROFILE

Special education practitioner, teacher educator, and district leader with nearly two decades of experience in PK–12 instruction, educator preparation, faculty-relevant professional learning, mentorship, and special education program leadership. Experience delivering an HB course on exceptional children for Fulton County and DeKalb County educators through contract work in online and hybrid face-to-face/online formats (2018–2021). Current Director of Special Education for Cobb County School District with sustained responsibility for coaching and evaluating educators and administrators, supervising instructional practice, and supporting students with disabilities. Doctoral scholarship examines leadership coaching and the professional growth of novice special education administrators. Committed to accessible undergraduate teaching, practice-based field mentoring, student success, and applied scholarship.

EDUCATION

Doctor of Education (Ed.D.), Educational Leadership — anticipated completion December 2026 | Kennesaw State University

Master of Education (M.Ed.), Special Education | Columbus State University

Education Specialist (Ed.S.), Educational Leadership | Kennesaw State University

Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) | Kennesaw State University

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Speech Communication | University of Georgia

TEACHING & EDUCATOR PREPARATION

Contract Instructor — HB Course on Exceptional Children | *2018–2021*

Teacher preparation for Fulton County and DeKalb County educators • Georgia

- Delivered HB exceptional-children course instruction through contract-based teacher preparation in online and hybrid face-to-face/online formats.
- Supported educators' understanding of students with exceptionalities and the instructional responsibilities of teachers serving diverse learners.
- Adapted instruction and facilitated educator learning across virtual and in-person settings; experience relevant to online undergraduate special education coursework.

Special Education Teacher — HAVEN Academy | *August 2007–May 2010*

Cobb County School District • Smyrna, GA

- Provided individualized instruction and behavioral supports for middle and high school students with emotional and behavioral disabilities, including students with learning disabilities.
- Planned differentiated instruction and collaborated with families and colleagues to support learning, self-regulation, and access to instruction.

Special Education Teacher — Floyd Middle School | *August 2010–January 2011*

Cobb County School District • Mableton, GA

- Taught students with disabilities using individualized, specially designed instruction and monitored progress toward IEP goals.
- Developed IEPs, functional behavioral assessments, and behavior intervention plans; partnered with general education teachers to support inclusive classrooms.

DISTRICT LEADERSHIP, MENTORSHIP & FIELD-BASED SUPPORT

Director of Special Education | *October 2021–Present*

Cobb County School District • Marietta, GA

- Provide executive leadership for district special education instructional programs and support services, coordinating across school leaders, multidisciplinary specialists, and families.
- Coach and mentor special education administrators and instructional leaders through structured feedback, collaborative problem-solving, and leadership development.
- Lead educator professional learning and instructional improvement involving specially designed instruction, IEP implementation, progress monitoring, behavior supports, and assessment-informed decisions.
- Oversee school-based instructional practice and professional growth through observation, support, and evaluation systems; relevant to mentoring and supervising teacher candidates in field settings.
- Promote school–district collaboration and consistent implementation of inclusive, legally compliant services for students with disabilities.

Assistant Director of Special Education | *October 2018–2021*

Cobb County School District • Marietta, GA

- Provided instructional and compliance support to 57 schools, with direct coaching, observation, evaluation, and professional learning for special education administrators and educators.
- Partnered with principals and school teams on instructional challenges, special education implementation, and continuous improvement.

Support and Services Administrator | *July 2015–October 2018*

Cobb County School District • Marietta, GA

- Observed, evaluated, and mentored special education teachers and paraprofessionals; supported IEP implementation and specially designed instruction.
- Collaborated with multidisciplinary school teams on eligibility, student behavior, inclusive practices, and support planning.

Special Education Supervisor | *July 2014–July 2015*

Cobb County School District • Marietta, GA

- Monitored IEP programs, served as central-office liaison, and supported teachers in strengthening instructional practices.

Education Program Specialist | *January 2011–July 2014*

Cobb County School District • Marietta, GA

- Supported IEP development and review, coordinated general and special education services, and modeled effective instructional practices.
- Assisted with teacher observation, feedback, individualized programming, and student schedules.

RESEARCH & SCHOLARLY AGENDA

Doctoral research — Qualitative case study of eight novice district-level special education administrators examining perceptions of leadership coaching in addressing professional challenges and supporting professional growth. Findings center on trust and psychological safety, contextualized coaching, confidence through competence, reflective practice, and the perceived tension between coaching and evaluation.

Research interests: preparation and retention of special education teachers and leaders; mentoring and field-based supervision; inclusive instruction and high-incidence disabilities; evidence-based behavior supports; educator professional development; school–university partnerships; applied leadership coaching.

SELECTED INSTRUCTIONAL & SERVICE EXPERTISE

Online and hybrid instruction • Teacher preparation and adult learning • Field observation, coaching, and feedback • High-incidence disabilities and emotional/behavioral support • IEPs and specially designed instruction • Functional behavioral assessment and BIPs • Inclusive education and collaboration • Assessment and progress monitoring • Transition and career readiness • Multidisciplinary and family partnerships

PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT & CREDENTIALS

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) — Member

Founder, GLM3 Consulting. Professional learning facilitation and district leadership development for special education educators and administrators.

Georgia educator credentials: Special Education, General Curriculum; Special Education content areas (Language, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies; cognitive level); Educational Leadership, Tier II (Level 7).

REFERENCES

Three professional references available upon request or in the institution’s application system.