

**Catherine M. Johnson Ed.D.**  
**School Improvement and Leadership Specialist at McREL International**

Dr. Johnson leads initiatives focused on school improvement and implementing comprehensive school reform efforts through designing customized solutions for all levels of educators including State and Local Education Agencies, districts, and schools. Her expertise in working with turnarounds schools includes conducting comprehensive needs assessments, designing continuous improvement processes, developing school-level leadership teams, and building and sustaining school culture. As a mathematics specialist, Dr. Johnson assists schools and districts with aligning curriculum and assessments to standards, and coaching teachers on implementing best instructional practices for standards-based teaching with increased rigor and relevance and using formative assessment to improve instruction. Additionally, she assists state agencies and districts to maximize organizational effectiveness and productivity through strategic planning. Prior to joining McREL, Dr. Johnson spent fifteen years in public education in the Cherry Creek, Douglas County, and Denver Public School Districts. Five of these years she served as an instructional leader, where she led alignment of STEM Curriculum to Common Core Standards and assessments, and coached teachers on implementing Response to Intervention (RtI) initiatives. She also held an administrative position in secondary education where she continued to serve as an instructional leader and developed and implemented a school-wide model to address chronic truancy. Dr. Johnson's experience also encompassed six years in finance and audit, as a Senior-Level Manager, directing large-scale systems improvement initiatives which led to substantial corporate monetary gains.

Dr. Johnson holds a Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics (Statistics) from the University of Northern Colorado, an Executive Master's Degree in Business Administration (Executive MBA) from Colorado State University, a K-12 Principal Leadership Certification from the University of Phoenix, and a doctoral degree in Educational Leadership (Ed. D) from the University of Wyoming.