

American Education Week –2025

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The Cumberland Connection: Cultivating Confidence in Beginning Teachers

Ashley Peterson, a native of Pittsburgh, PA, is a highly certified education professional who graduated from Slippery Rock University. Her credentials include certifications as an Elementary Education teacher, Early Childhood specialist, and Reading Specialist.

Ashley has direct classroom experience teaching grades K-4. She is also an active contributor to educational development, having presented at numerous workshops, including NCTIES. Currently, she serves as a Beginning Teacher Support Facilitator for Cumberland County Schools.

Ashley is married and a proud mother of two boys, and enjoys reading and traveling in her free time.



As part of American Education Week, this session highlights the vital role that support and mentorship play in helping new educators transition successfully into the classroom. Participants will gain an overview of the comprehensive support systems offered to beginning teachers in Cumberland County Schools, including mentorship, professional development opportunities, and resources designed to foster instructional excellence and teacher retention.

This presentation will also provide insight for current education candidates preparing to enter the profession, helping them understand what to expect during their induction years and how to take advantage of available support. By learning about these structures, participants will deepen their understanding of how schools and districts invest in their teachers' growth and success.

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