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### Living in Venn: Leading from the Center

Nancy Nestor-Baker

*Nestor-Baker Strategies, LLC*

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Nancy Nestor-Baker's career has focused on bringing people together to build communities, strengthen organizations, and work in partnership for the greater good.

As Principal of Nestor-Baker Strategies, LLC, Nancy works with individuals and teams to strengthen leadership capacities; build effective collaborative relationships and partnerships; initiate critical discussions; and strengthen organizational engagement.

From 2003-2016, Dr. Nestor-Baker served as an administrator at The Ohio State University. From 2010-2016, Nancy was posted to United Way of Central Ohio to serve as UWCO's Senior Assistant Vice President, Community Engagement, where she expanded outreach and engagement, developed key education initiatives and partnerships, created relationship management strategies, and assisted with organizational engagement. Prior to her time at UWCO, Nancy was Director of The Ohio State University P-12 Project, a university-wide initiative focused on developing partnerships, fostering effective research and practice in public education, and providing more coherent, consistent approaches to engagement with the public education community, particularly in school districts serving underserved children, youth, and their families. Earlier in her career, she was a tenure-track faculty member in Educational Administration at the University of Cincinnati. Her research, teaching, and service efforts include topics such as trust development, school/community partnerships, school governance and leadership, university outreach, and tacit knowledge. She is published in scholarly journals such as Teachers' College Record and the Journal of Educational Administration, as well as in practitioner-oriented texts and online journals.

Nancy is a member of the Westerville City Schools Board of Education. With 20 years of experience on the board, Nancy is the longest-serving female in the board's history. She has served six terms as board president, three terms as vice president, and acted as board liaison in areas such as policy, strategic planning, curriculum and instruction, personnel, governmental relations, facilities and business operations, and communications. She has provided strategic leadership for more than 30 ballot campaigns related to the schools and the Board of Education.

Nancy's community involvement includes current board positions with the Ohio Crime Victims Justice Center, Neighborhood Bridges, Uptown Westerville, Inc, Academy Selection Board for the Office of Congressman Troy Balderson, and the Central College Presbyterian Church. Among many other boards and committees, Nancy previously served on the Franklin County Family and Children First Council, Building Better Lives Council, Southern Gateway Revitalization Committee, Columbus Higher Education Partnership, the Association of NROTC Colleges and Universities, and the Ohio State Outreach and Engagement Steering Committee, and the Ohio Teacher of the Year Selection Committee .

A three-time graduate of The Ohio State University, Nancy holds a PhD in Educational Administration; a MA in Gifted Education; and a BS in English Education.