



**Candidate Name:** Darin Kelberlau

**Candidate Statement:**

I am honored to appear on the ballot for the NCME Board Member representing a Local Educational Agency. My history with the organization and the mentoring I have both received and been able to give as a result of NCME have been valuable parts of my professional career.

Currently, I am the Executive Director of Assessment for Millard Public Schools in Omaha, Nebraska. My twenty-eight years in K12 education have provided me with a variety of experiences. For ten years, I was a secondary mathematics teacher. The remainder of my career thus far has been in educational leadership. In my role with the third largest school district in the state, I oversee the development of assessment systems, the process of collecting, analyzing and interpreting data, and all program evaluations and research requests.

Teaching is still a passion for me, and I currently serve as an adjunct professor for two local universities. Teaching Assessment Leadership, Introduction to Quantitative Research Methods, and Advanced Quantitative Research Methods to graduate and doctoral students not only keeps my teaching skills honed but provides me the opportunity to stay up to date on current trends in the field. I was awarded a Ph.D. in Quantitative, Qualitative, & Psychometric Methods in Education from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln. As a teaching assistant for two graduate level cohort programs, I supervised programs in assessment literacy for teachers and leaders.

As an NCME Board Member, I will provide:

- Expertise in Assessment – My PhD coursework, teaching experience, district and state leadership, and role as a university professor will all inform my work on the Board.
- Educational Leadership – My service to NCME will rely on my eighteen years as a leader within K12 school districts as well as my leadership roles in local and state professional organizations.
- Strategic Vision – In my current position, our district's strategic plan provides parameters and action plans to guide our work to meet our mission and vision statements. I will leverage those same systems to move our work forward.
- Educational Experience – As a Board member, I will provide practical insights into the challenges and opportunities relative to assessment.
- Technology and Innovation – Much of the work I lead leverages technology (e.g. test administration, writing assessment scoring, our student information system, a local data warehouse, and data analytics). My engagement with educational technology partners has always been focused on making the most of the current technology while helping stakeholders see the next evolution of the tools we use.
- Engagement – I value NCME, thus I dedicate my time to participating in the Annual Meeting, SIGIMIE meetings, the NCME website committee, and available webinars.

President Walker's vision for "Research Into Practice" resonates with me. As a district and state leader, I know that assessment is often put into practice within the walls of our classrooms. I think it is important to continue to grow the engagement of our SIGIMIES because partnering measurement experts with state and local leaders would benefit the educational and measurement worlds.

NCME has provided me with a valuable network and helpful resources. I believe my dedication and experience would benefit NCME in continuing to grow our mission.