

# Adam R. Nelson

---

5451 Garden Drive N, Mountain Iron, MN 55768

(651) 276-0555 | arnelson45@gmail.com

## Executive Summary

Dedicated and visionary education leader with nine years of middle school and high school social studies teaching experience and 12 years of school administration leadership. Proven ability to raise achievement, build strong school cultures, and lead district-wide initiatives. Skilled communicator with a talent for building trusted relationships with students, staff, and the community. Committed to data-driven instruction and collaborative decision-making that prioritizes student growth and success.

## Key Strengths

- - PK-12 Leadership & Educational Administration
- - Instructional Coaching & Curriculum Alignment
- - Facilities & Operations Management
- - MTSS Implementation & Data-Informed Practice
- - Public Speaking & Community Engagement
- - Staff Development & Evaluation Systems
- - Career & Technical Education Coordination
- - Team Collaboration & Stakeholder Relations

## Professional Experience

### Mountain Iron-Juhl Schools -- PK-12 Principal

2020–Present

- - Serve as instructional and operational leader for two school sites; manage academics, staff, safety, and facilities.
- - Secured a \$40,000 STEM/Computer Science grant to expand K-12 programming.
- - Increased Career and Technical Education programming for high school students
- - Oversaw student achievement growth, improved school climate and culture, and fully implemented PBIS and Restorative Practices.
- - Led renovations of nurse's office and student support center; developed new safety and emergency protocols.

- - Directed facilities in absence of maintenance director and spearheaded facility planning, security and playground development.

#### **Cannon Falls High School -- Dean of Students**

2018-2020

- - Enhanced student support systems and behavior frameworks.
- - Provided leadership on school climate, restorative practices, and equitable discipline.

#### **Wrenshall Public Schools -- Interim Superintendent / PK-12 Principal**

2018

- - Directed district budgeting, strategic planning, staffing, and facilities operations.
- - Developed a long term facilities maintenance upgrade plan for the district
- - Implemented new scheduling models and led long-range planning for curriculum and maintenance.

#### **Cook County Schools -- Principal (PK-12 and 6-12)**

2013-2018

- - Established MTSS system and Child Study Team system; raised Native American graduation rate to 100%.
- - Served as Q-Comp coordinator and instructional lead; introduced LSI framework and peer evaluation.
- - Led curriculum reform, instructional improvement cycles, and teacher coaching systems.
- - Planned and led the new CTE/Industrial Arts facility project. Led the planning process up to the construction phase for the new science and culinary arts renovation.

#### **Red Wing High School -- Social Studies Teacher**

2007-2013

- - Taught AP Human Geography, Civics, U.S. History, and Economics.
- - Contributed to curriculum cycles and led department PLC.

#### **Background & Technical Skills**

- - Google Platform, student information systems, and operations software
- - Data analysis for instruction, scheduling, and student progress
- - Confident public speaker, presenter, and team facilitator

## **Education**

K-12 Principal, Ed.S., Educational Leadership, Superintendent – St. Mary's University of Minnesota (2011, 2012, 2016)

M.A., Education – Hamline University (2009)

B.A., Social Studies Education (5–12) – Gustavus Adolphus College (2003)

## **Certifications**

- - Minnesota Superintendent License (active)
- - Minnesota K-12 Principal License
- - Minnesota Superintendent License
- - Teacher Coordinator Work Based Learning License (9-12)
- - Social Studies Teaching License (5-12)

## **Professional References**

Jeremy Jesch – MIB STEM/CS Teacher & Former MIB School Board Chair – (218) 750.3418

Amy Hultman – MIB School Counselor – (218) 248.5263

Megan Lescarbeau – MIB School Social Worker – (218) 417.0793

Kris Hoffman – Former Mountain Iron-Buhl Dean of Students – (507) 259.3201

Mitch Dorr – Former Cook County Schools Teacher's Union President – (218) 387.5253

Tim Hodges – Cannon Falls High School Principal – (952) 250.6638

