Marlo Gaddis, CETL
Chief Technology Officer
Wake County Public School System (NC)

Professional Background:
I am the Chief Technology Officer for the Wake County Public School System. I served three other NC Districts of various sizes in the past as 21st Century Learning Coordinator, Lead Teacher for Technology (K-5) and Media (K-12); Lead Teacher for Math, Science, Social Studies and Technology (K-5); district and school Technology Facilitator; and Kindergarten and First Grade teacher. I serve on K12 Education Advisory Boards for the RTM K-12 Congress, Lenovo and IMS Global. I am on the Board of Directors for CoSN (Consortium of School Networking) and serve on the Executive Board as Secretary. I am a founding member and board member of the NC CoSN (Consortium of School Networking) chapter and a CoSN CETL (Certified Educational Technology Leader).

What are the two most important priorities for CoSN to focus on in the next three years?
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion - Though CoSN has begun work around diversity, equity, and inclusion, there is so much to be done. CoSN members need to understand their own biases through learning and reflection in order to better lead in their districts, departments, and beyond. The CoSN Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee is already working on resources for the membership; however, it will be in the use of those resources that we will see greater change in people, places, and teams. CoSN should give our members safe space to learn, process, reflect, and grow. We can do this through courses, cohorts of learners, coaching, and more.

Data Privacy and Cybersecurity - The pandemic brought two related topics to the forefront for technology leaders: the adoption cycle for digital resources (data privacy) and cybersecurity risks. More now than before, teachers and leaders look for low-cost or free resources to help learning and business core functions. There is often a tension between what is instructionally sound versus what is safe and secure for student use. While adopting new resources may be helpful to teachers, it is important for technology leaders to provide governance to district staff on how to protect student data and help prevent cyber incidents. More resources and best practices around data privacy and cyber security need to be available and accessible (not technology heavy vocabulary) for the school community as a whole. CoSN has published several documents related to both topics but will need to stay vigilant as the technology continually changes.

Describe your relevant experience in providing leadership to nonprofit organizations (e.g. service on boards, events, fundraising), with particular emphasis on any experience working with state or national education and/or ed tech associations

CoSN Board Member, 2019-present

CoSN Secretary, 2019-present

CoSN Conference Co-Chair, 2020-present

CoSN Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, 2020-present

CoSN Driving K-12 Innovation Advisory Board, 2020-present

CoSN CTO Council Vice Chair, 2017-present

NC CoSN chapter founding member and secretary, 2016-present

RTM K-12 Advisory Member, 2016-present

Learning Counsel Instructional Design Committee, 2015-2017

Usher's New Look Foundation Music Moguls Advisory Group member, 2013-2015

NCDPI Home Base External Stakeholder Advisory Group member, 2011-2014

Co-Chairwoman for WSFCS March of Dimes campaign, 2009-2012

NC Special Interest Group Administrator, North Carolina Technology in Education Society (NCTIES), 2009-2011

Chairwoman for the United Way WSFCS Women's Leadership Council, 2008-2010

Past President, North Carolina Technology in Education Society (NCTIES, formerly NCaect), March 2008-2009

Board of Directors, North Carolina Association of School Administrators (NCASA), 2007-2009

President, North Carolina Association for Educational Communications & Technology (NCaect), March 2007-2008

Vice President and Conference Chair, North Carolina Association for Educational Communications & Technology (NCaect), March 2006- March 2007

Region Five Director, North Carolina Association for Educational Communications & Technology (NCaect), 2004-2006

CoSN has identified diversity as a priority for both the CTO profession and the CoSN organization. As a CoSN Board nominee, how would you help to broaden diversity and/or what experience have you had in evaluating or managing organizational diversity?
As a member of the CoSN Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee, I am committed to learning and reflecting on my own practices and conscious/unconscious biases. We are beginning work through the committee on the development of resources related to recruitment and retention of diverse staff, guidance around making our technology systems more inclusive, and supporting teachers and students through culturally responsive teaching and learning. It is no longer sufficient to recognize diversity and support initiatives related to diversity, equity and inclusion but instead, I work with CoSN and my district colleagues to set high expectations in allyship and activism, call out microaggressions, and create environments of inclusion and belonging.

Describe your past involvement in CoSN and/or our state chapters
I am on the Board of Directors for CoSN (Consortium of School Networking) and serve on the Executive Board as Secretary. I have served the Board as the secretary, a conference co-chair, a CTO Council co-chair, and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee. I am a founding member and board member of the NC CoSN (Consortium of School Networking) chapter and a CoSN CETL (Certified Educational Technology Leader). Each year, I co-teach the NC CETL course sponsored by the NC Department of Public Instruction and NCTIES (ISTE affiliate).