# Massachusetts Organization of Educational Collaboratives

Joanne Haley Sullivan, Executive Director



#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

Media Contact: Madelyn Hedges
Phone: 781-428-3299
Email: Madelyn@jgpr.net

# READS Collaborative Appoints Rebekah Marchilena as Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program Director



Rebekah Marchilena has been appointed as READS collaborative's new Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program Director. (Photo Courtesy READS Collaborative)

MIDDLEBORO – READS Collaborative, a member of the <u>Massachusetts</u>

<u>Organization of Educational Collaboratives</u> (MOEC), is pleased to announce that

Rebekah Marchilena has been appointed as the collaborative's new Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program Director.

"MOEC is proud to have a long-standing tradition of serving students who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing and to serve these students and their families in the least restrictive settings across the Commonwealth," said MOEC Executive Director Joanne Haley-Sullivan.

Marchilena will replace long-time Director of the READS Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program, Evelyn Rankin. She will begin in her new role on July 1.

Marchilena currently serves as a science teacher for the Norton Public Schools.

She has previously held the titles of teacher of the deaf, MCAS tutor for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students, and Deaf and Hard of Hearing program administrator.

Throughout her career, Marchilena has participated in and led a wide range of education initiatives including those in STEM and Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education. She holds all necessary Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) certifications.

Marchilena holds a master's degree and certification coursework completed in deaf education from Boston University, a bachelor's degree in American Sign Language and Deaf Studies from the University of Rochester and a bachelor's degree in neuroscience from the University of Rochester. She holds professional licensure in deaf education, as well as American Sign Language as a second language. She has most recently completed doctoral coursework in educational leadership.

"Ms. Marchilena has proven commitment to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community and advancement of education for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students," said READS Collaborative Executive Director Dina Medeiros. "We look forward to welcoming Ms. Marchilena to READS Collaborative."

#### **About Massachusetts Organization of Educational Collaboratives**

MOEC represents the Commonwealth's 24 educational collaboratives. MOEC serves as the voice of its members and works to develop a full appreciation for and understanding of educational collaboratives at the state, regional, and local levels. MOEC is the Commonwealth's primary advocate for collaboratives and the critical role they play in the Massachusetts educational system.

###

### A message from the Massachusetts Organization of Educational Collaboratives