Dr. Cheryl R. Ellerbrock is Associate Professor of Middle Grades and General Secondary Education and Campus Dean of the College of Education at the University of South Florida’s Sarasota-Manatee campus. She has authored over 45 publications that center on ways to promote responsive secondary school experiences for young adolescent learners. In 2022, she co-edited a book published by Routledge titled, “Middle Level Teacher Preparation Across International Contexts: Understanding Local and Global Factors Influencing Teacher Education” and in 2014 she co-edited another book published by Teachers College Press entitled, “Talking Diversity with Teachers and Teacher Educators: Exercises and Critical Conversations Across the Curriculum.” At USF, Dr. Ellerbrock teaches a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses in middle level and general secondary education. Dr. Ellerbrock has managed several large grants, including a middle grades STEM teacher preparation grant and a grant focusing on young adolescent literacy. In 2022 she won NAPOMLE’s Outstanding Professor of Middle Level Education award along with the Margaret Burlington Tritle Excellence in Teaching Award. In 2016 she won the Paul S. George Award in Recognition of Leadership and Service for the Advancement of Middle School Level Education in the State of Florida and in 2011 she was the recipient of USF’s Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher of the Year award. She currently serves as Immediate Past Chair for the MLER SIG, member of Association for Middle Level Education’s Research Advisory Committee, Secretary and Collegiate Representative of the Florida League of Middle Schools, and the Southern Regional Director for the National Association of Professors of Middle Level Education.