



Introducing maaps' new Director of Education Policy!



It is my great pleasure to introduce Amanda (Panikian) Kane as the incoming Director of Education Policy of the Massachusetts Association of 766 Approved Private Schools (**maaps**). Many of you may know Amanda from Summit Academy, a member school and through her work on the Outcomes, Conference, and Evidence Based Practice Committees. We could not be happier that Amanda has joined the **maaps** internal team and look forward to wonderful work ahead!

Elizabeth Dello Russo Becker
Executive Director



I am so pleased to join **maaps** as the Director of Educational Policy. Over the years, my involvement at **maaps** has been pivotal in equipping me as a leader, influencing my professional growth, and opening my eyes to the work of our wider community. The opportunity to expand upon that foundation and to partner with all of you as we address the common challenges facing the most vulnerable students in the state is one I embrace with enthusiasm. I'm humbled to take the baton from my capable predecessor, Dr. Theresa Melito-Conners, and to continue her fine work of support and advocacy on your behalf, together with the wonderful **maaps** staff. As one of our students said to me last week, *"I'm sure you'll meet lots of new people and make tons of fun. I am sure you will do good at your job as soon as you learn how if you don't already. And I'm sure that there might be hiccups but I am sure you will figure them out."* So here's to meeting all of our challenges with the optimism we teach our students, finding the hiccups and facing them with confidence, learning new things, and maybe even having some fun while we're at it.

Amanda Panakian Kane
Director of Education Policy

