



## Member Spotlight

Elizabeth Bartell, M.Ed., GCDF, NCC, NBCT-R

Central Academy of Technology & Arts (Union County Schools)

### **1. What drew you to the world of career coaching (counseling, advising, teaching)?**

As a former school counselor (E, M, and HS), I felt the career development aspect of counseling programming did not receive the attention the students deserved. I wanted to be able to help all students explore and expand their post-secondary options.

### **2. What is your favorite part of the job?**

I love helping everyone find their path. As a School of Choice, we have several academies: Information Systems, Medical Sciences, Performing Arts, Pre-Engineering, Transportation Systems, and the International (IB) Academy. I continue to grow in my knowledge and skills through the academies. Currently, with our juniors, I'm focusing on résumés and internships.

### **3. How has NCCDA played a role in your career?**

I love being a member of NCCDA. This year, I have the opportunity to be a part of the conference committee. The professional development keeps me current on issues pertaining to my work. Also, being able to connect with professionals in a variety of work environments beyond K-12 is a bonus.

### **4. What do you think is the biggest challenge in our profession today?**

I feel high school students are not future focused. It's challenge to convince them to think beyond today and to follow through on career-related tasks. The statewide implementation of Career Development Plans for the 2024-2025 school year hopefully will help increase students' awareness of the importance of career development and exploration.

### **5. When you aren't working, what do you like to do?**

I like to travel. I am visiting London and Paris during Spring Break this year. I'm an avid reader and I love music and singing.

### **6. What five terms would you use to describe yourself?**

Energetic, personable, open, lifelong learner, and happy.

### **7. If you could be any fictional character, who would you be and why?**

Wonder Woman. I would be more powerful and capable of helping more people.