



## THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

### POSTSECONDARY: UNIVERSITY

#### **Nancy Fichtman Dana, Master's in Education and Ph.D. in Childhood Education**



Dr. Nancy Fichtman Dana is currently Professor of Education in the School of Teaching and Learning in the College of Education at the University of Florida. After earning her bachelor's and master's degrees in Education from the State University of New York, she began her career as an Elementary School Teacher in Hannibal Central Schools, New York where she taught grades 3 through 6. Since earning her Ph.D. from the Department of Childhood Education at Florida State University in 1991, where she completed an award-winning dissertation entitled *Four*

*Walls with a Future: Changing Educational Practice through Collaborative Action Research*, she has been a passionate advocate for the process of action research, also referred to as practitioner inquiry, in her appointments as a faculty member at both Pennsylvania State University and the University of Florida. During the 11 years she spent on the faculty at Penn State, Dr. Dana developed and co-directed the State College Area School District-Penn State Elementary Professional Development School Program, a program recognized with several national awards. She has worked with numerous schools and districts across the United States and abroad to craft professional development programs of inquiry, as well as conducted extensive research on the process. She has published ten books and over 60 articles in leading professional journals and edited books that focused on teacher and principal professional development and practitioner inquiry. Dr. Dana has received many honors including the Association of Teacher Educator's Distinguished Research in Teacher Education Award and the National Staff Development Council (NSDC) Book of the Year Award.