

Dean received his bachelor's degree in Physics and Astronomy from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in 2002. Upon graduation he began his teaching career at Tracy High School. In 2018 he was the IB Coordinator at Tracy High School. In addition to coordinating, he also taught a variety of science, computer science, and engineering courses. Throughout his 16 years as an educator at Tracy High School he served as the advisor to the Tracy High Earth Club, Scientifically Speaking Club, and Computer Programming Club. He has been a Master Teacher for Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's Education Program from 2007 - 2017 instructing in the Computer Simulation Teacher Research Academy and the Climate Change Teacher Research Academy. In 2011, Dean was awarded the Cortopassi Family Foundation Excellence in Science Teaching Award. Dean was involved as an instructor for the SIMMS (Secondary Integration of Modeling in Math and Science) Project with the intent of developing computer-modeling skills for high school science and math teachers within San Joaquin County. Dean is a National Board-Certified Teacher in Adolescent and Young Adult Science. He recently completed a 4-year term on the Instructional Quality Commission, an advisory board to the California State Board of Education. In 2018, Dean accepted a position as science coordinator of outdoor education and environmental literacy for SJCOE and is currently working to support an effort to expand environmental literacy throughout San Joaquin County and beyond.