Tricia Maas, Ph.D., is a senior research scientist at Committee for Children, a former high school math teacher, and an expert in social-emotional learning (SEL) and developing strong educator communities. She leads research for the organization's Second Step® SEL for Adults program, which is designed to help K–12 school leadership and staff strengthen bonds with colleagues and students, reduce stress, and create a positive school climate. Maas holds a Ph.D. in education policy from the University of Washington.

In her role as a senior research scientist, Maas ensures the web-based Second Step SEL for Adults program is grounded in recent research and best practices in adult learning. Before joining the Second Step SEL for Adults team, she served as lead researcher for the organization's Second Step® Out-of-School Time program and studied how comprehensive SEL can support effective school-community partnerships in service of the whole child. Maas knows students thrive when educators thrive. She can speak to educators' social-emotional well-being, healthy school and classroom climate and culture, professional development, stress and burnout, teacher self-efficacy, and collective teacher efficacy.
Doug Fisher, Ph.D.
Professor and Teacher-Leader

Doug Fisher, Ph.D., is a professor in and chair of the Department of Educational Leadership at San Diego State University, as well as a teacher-leader at Health Sciences High & Middle College in San Diego. For more than two decades, Fisher has dedicated his work to the development of the knowledge and skills that compassionate teachers and school leaders need to help students attain their goals and aspirations. As a core thought partner to Committee for Children during the development of Second Step® SEL for Adults, he supported the organization in reviewing content and developing a framework for online professional development and adult SEL.

Also a speaker and author, Fisher has written and co-authored several influential books on instruction, equity, and SEL, including “All Learning Is Social and Emotional: Helping Students Develop Essential Skills for the Classroom and Beyond” and “The Teacher Credibility and Collective Efficacy Playbook.” Fisher is available to speak about teacher growth and leadership, teacher turnover and retention, SEL, and what he's learned from his experiences with educators worldwide.

Nancy Frey, Ph.D.
Professor and Teacher-Leader

Nancy Frey, Ph.D., is a professor of literacy in the Department of Educational Leadership at San Diego State University and a teacher-leader at Health Sciences High & Middle College in San Diego. Frey has been in the education industry for more than 20 years as a special education teacher, reading specialist, and public school administrator. As a core thought partner to Committee for Children during the development of Second Step SEL for Adults, Frey supported the organization in reviewing content and developing a framework for online professional development and adult SEL.

She is an influential author and writer regularly featured in the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development’s Educational Leadership and Education Week. Frey has published numerous books, including “The Teacher Clarity Playbook” and “The Teacher Credibility and Collective Efficacy Playbook.” She is available to speak about educational leadership; teacher education, efficacy, and retention; SEL; and what she's learned from her experiences as an educator and administrator.

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Specialty Areas:
- Adult learning and educator professional development
- Teacher growth and leadership
- SEL for teachers and adults
- Schoolwide literacy intervention
- Policies and practices in equity, literacy, and school leadership

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Specialty Areas:
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- Simultaneous, hybrid, and blended learning
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