Dana Sprinkle was an elementary school teacher for 13 years before becoming principal of Ell-Saline Elementary, a rural school where nearly half of all students receive free or reduced-price meals. Committed to collaborative and distributed leadership, Sprinkle draws on the expertise of staff and parents as the facilitator of the school’s leadership team, which she has developed over the ten-year course of her tenure. Under her guidance, the team has developed and implemented a variety of initiatives that respond to achievement and demographic data to improve student wellbeing and performance. Such initiatives include a school-wide behavior plan, parent enrichment nights, and Ell-Saline “family groups,” which give sustained, weekly opportunities for students to engage in social and emotional learning. Grounded in Sprinkle’s passionate interest in education for the whole child, “family groups” developed as a response to increasing poverty in the community, as well as an increased number of foster care students, autistic students, and students with mental health diagnoses. Sprinkle has also implemented full-day Kindergarten and a school-wide reading program with Tier 2 and Tier 3 intervention, both to great effect. She currently serves as her district’s Testing Coordinator and is consistently described by her colleagues as driven, passionate, and dedicated. Sprinkle holds a B.S. in Education, an M.S. in Administration from Kansas State University, Manhattan, and a certificate in District Leadership from Emporia State University in Emporia, Kansas.