

## **Leslie Hodgins-Ross, Central Literacy Lead – the Model School Literacy Project**

Leslie received her undergraduate and Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Toronto. While working as a teacher for Peel District School Board, she attained her Masters of Education degree from the University of Mount St. Vincent.

Leslie began her formal career in education in 1986. After working for several years as both an elementary classroom teacher and special education teacher, she pursued her interest in early literacy by training first as a Reading Recovery (RR) teacher and later as a RR Teacher Leader, gaining certification through the Canadian Institute of Reading Recovery. As the Teacher Leader, she worked collaboratively to ensure a strong RR program in her region, providing both ongoing support for teachers as well as a RR training and certification program. Leslie also worked as a Resource Teacher, providing regional support for early literacy projects.

In September 2016, Leslie became the Central Literacy Lead for the Model Schools Project. She provides mentoring for staff to implement effective assessment and instructional practices in early reading and writing.