



Penelope Wheeler-Abbott **Education & Human Resources Specialist**

Phone: 207.253.0596

Fax: 207.772.3627

Email: pwheeler-abbott@dwmlaw.com

84 Marginal Way, Suite 600

Portland, ME 04101-2480

Assistant: Gabrielle Barber **Email:** gbarber@dwmlaw.com

Bio

Penelope Wheeler-Abbott works with schools and municipalities as a non-lawyer consultant and advocate providing guidance on wide-ranging education and human resources matters including special education, school administration, investigation, personnel evaluation, supervision, and policy development. As a former school administrator, Penny has extensive experience in dealing with employee, student, and education issues of all kinds. She maintains her certifications as a teacher, building administrator, and assistant superintendent.

Penny skillfully helps clients navigate the challenges inherent in managing the needs and requests of school and local government's diverse stakeholders. She provides consultation on challenging special education issues, attends IEP team meetings as an advocate for schools, helps schools respond to special education complaints and prepare for due process hearings. Penny also conducts a wide variety of investigations for public sector entities including investigations of harassment, discrimination, Title IX complaints, and employee and student misconduct – including student bullying allegations.

Additionally, Penny provides consultation support to clients regarding employee supervision and evaluation, as well as offering in-service training.

In her free time, Penny can be found exploring and hiking in Maine and New Hampshire. She also enjoys knitting, reading, and spending time with her family including her two almost-adult children. She is also committed to her community and serves as a Board Member at both the Chocorua Lake Conservancy and The Opportunity Alliance.

Education

Practice Areas

Employment & Labor
School & Education
School Employment
Special Education

University of Southern Maine, M.S., 1997

University of Montana, M.S., 1992

Macalester College, B.A., *cum laude*, 1990

Memberships

The Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
("ASCD")

Community/Public Service

The Opportunity Alliance
Board Member

Chocorua Lake Conservancy
Board Member, Secretary