

TEAM MEMBER PORTRAIT
JILL RYCUS
Leadership Development Strategist



BIOGRAPHY //

Jill Rycus is a proud graduate of Michigan State University, with degrees in Elementary Education, Special Education, and a Masters of Arts degree in Curriculum and Instruction.

Jill has three decades of experience as a classroom teacher and was named Educator of the Year in 2016. She serves as a *Capturing Kids' Hearts Process Champion™*, mentoring others in her building and school district. She thrives on empowering students and staff members to grow in their own leadership skills in and out of the classroom. She became a *Capturing Kids' Hearts®* trainer in 2019. After witnessing firsthand the impact that *Capturing Kids' Hearts* had on her students and school, she is thrilled to have the opportunity to share this process with fellow educators across the nation.

Jill is happily married to her college sweetheart, BJ, and they live in Okemos, Michigan. They have one daughter, Isabelle, who is a current MSU student. Jill serves as a hospital volunteer in the pediatric and oncology units, and enjoys being a docent at the Meridian Historical Village. Her hobbies include knitting, baking, playing guitar and ukulele, and spending time with friends and family. ■