

SARAH HELEN ANDERSON

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I am a high energy professional with 20 years experience leading for equity and school change. Committed to ensuring that every child has a quality seat in a public school. Proven expertise in growing highly effective teams, facilitating adult learning, communicating across stakeholder groups, and bridging high level policy development with classroom implementation.

EXPERIENCE and SELECTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Blackstone Valley Prep Mayoral Academy, Cumberland, RI

Deputy Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer 2021 to present

Chief Academic Officer 2017 to 2021

Director of Humanities 2015 to 2017

Built and lead the Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment and Special Populations teams and supervise principals in a high performing, intentionally diverse network of 6 schools serving 2,300 students K-12.

Responsible for program strategy and change management, centralized curriculum, talent development and professional growth. Recent accomplishments include leading the design of an evaluation system for central office staff, securing a \$750,000 grant to support culturally responsive curriculum and closing literacy gaps, and developing an Action Plan for Multilingual Learners that dramatically increased the network's certified ESL teachers and the percent of scholars demonstrating language proficiency.

Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Providence, RI

Transformation Specialist, Office of Transformation and Charter Schools, 2012 to 2015

Lead facilitator, curriculum designer, and project manager for the Academy for Transformative Leadership's aspiring principals program and professional development for school leadership teams, which in three years placed 13 new school leaders and supported more than 90 educators.

Policy development and stakeholder engagement on school accountability and college and career readiness, with a particular focus on implications for high poverty, high minority schools.

Designed and led the agency's system for school transformation, which was cited by the US Department of Education and adopted by multiple districts as a performance management system for all schools.

Provided direct technical assistance to districts and coordinated resources to support rapid sustainable improvement.

Grand Rapids Public Schools, Grand Rapids, MI

SIG Data Support Specialist, 2011 to 2012

Created and managed systems for evaluating programming under a \$5 million federal grant.

Facilitated school reform planning and data review; coordinated and delivered aligned professional development.

Community Action School (M.S. 258), New York, NY

Literacy Coach and Data Specialist, 2005 to 2010

Part of the leadership team responsible for the school's rise from a state "failing" school to one of the top 10 schools on the NYC Department of Education's school report cards.

Led a Language Arts team of 11 faculty members that dramatically increased state assessment results, particularly for students with disabilities and English language learners. Facilitated weekly professional learning communities across disciplines.

Middle School Literature and Language Arts Teacher, 2002 to 2006

Oasis Children's Services, Brooklyn, NY

Director, Oasis in Madison Summer Camp, Summer 2007

Senior Program Coordinator, Oasis Children Services, 2005 and summer 2006

Shakin, Lichty, & Boreyko Associates, New York, NY

Associate, 1999 to 2001

Wrote successful grant proposals to private and corporate foundations totaling over \$500,000.

EDUCATION

Western Michigan University, Grand Rapids, MI

M.S. in Education Leadership; 3.93 GPA

Bank Street Graduate School of Education, New York, NY

M.S. Ed. (Early Adolescence: Middle Level Education) 3.9 GPA

Masters Thesis: A good school for every child? An inquiry into New York State's Schools Under Registration Review Program

Williams College, Williamstown, MA

B.A. in English; Phi Beta Kappa; Dean's List; Class of 1960 Scholar; 3.79 GPA

CERTIFICATION

Superintendent of Schools, Rhode Island, PK-12.

Building Leader Licensure, Rhode Island, PK-12.

Permanent Certification, New York State, English grades 7 to 9

PERSONAL

Active parent advocate focused on desegregation and city-wide approaches to excellence in public schools.

Member of *Parents Leading for Educational Equity*.