

GIANNA CASSETTA

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/gianna-cassetta-consulting/>

Beyond EI Certified Coach (2020). Accomplished school designer and leadership coach with demonstrated ability to create innovative and culturally responsive academic, social and emotional learning programming, cultivate capacity of leadership teams, support organizational development, and craft and deliver customized professional development with an antiracism lens.

Author of:

- *Unconscious Bias and Inclusion* (Beyond EI blended learning course, expected 2022)
- *The Caring Teacher: Strategies for Working Through Our Own Difficulties with Students* (Heinemann, 2019)
- *Classroom Management Matters: The Social and Emotional Learning Approach That Children Deserve* (Heinemann, 2015)
- *Is Grit Really It?* Heinemann's Digital Campus, May 2015
- *How to Stop Controlling Students and Help Them Control Themselves*, Chalkbeat, November 2014
- *Teaching Children to Move from Aggressive to Assertive Behavior*, Heinemann's Digital Campus, September 2014
- *No More Taking Away Recess and Other Problematic Discipline Practices* (Heinemann, 2013)
- *Literacy Centers: A Standards Based Approach for Grades 3 and Beyond* (Pacific Learning, 2002)
- Featured in instructional videos on effective literacy practices, *Step into Guided Reading* (Pacific Learning, 1999)

EXPERIENCE

THE PLAIN RED HORSE 7/14 -Present, *Founder, Coach and Consultant*

- Past and present clients include Martin Luther King Charter School for Excellence, Noble Story Group, Narrative 4, Colorado Education Initiative, Furr XQ High School, Dickinson Public Schools, Rockwood Public Schools, Planned Parenthood, and Heinemann Publishing

REDESIGN 2/18-7/19, *Professional Learning Designer*

- Managed school to state level partnerships
- Designed, implemented and ensured quality for all assigned professional development partnerships
- Wrote, and managed the writing of personalized, competency-based social justice curriculum
- Facilitated workshops and coaching on a wide range of instructional and leadership topics
- Assessed impact of projects
- Created tools and processes for organization wide use

GENERATION READY 2/16-1/18, *Director of Literacy Services*

- Served on Executive Team
- Designed, implemented and ensured quality for all professional development partnerships in the New England area
- Supported and managed consultants
- Facilitated workshops, coaching, and school reviews
- Assessed impact of projects

SOAR SCHOOLS 9/09-6/14, *Co-Founder and Co-Executive Director*

- Authored and implemented the charter application for a K-5 school in far Northeast Denver

- Recruited board of trustees and staff
- Fundraised for and executed a whole child centered approach that included physical fitness, mental health services, culturally responsive social and emotional learning, trauma sensitive practices, physical health, and nutrition
- Designed an annual summer institute for onboarding staff, focused on supporting students through a balanced approach to academic, artistic and social emotional competence
- Crafted numerous curriculum units utilized by school staff
- Co-created a school wide approach to English Language Development
- Implemented the first plant based public charter school lunch program in the country, earning PCRM's Golden Carrot 1st runner up award

DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS 9/08-8/09, *Director of Leadership Development, Office of School Reform and Innovation*

- Authored application for new, non-charter DPS schools
- Advised on evaluation tools and process for approving applications
- Designed and facilitated a “New School Creation Workshop Series” to shepherd applicants through the application writing process
- Created DPS’s “New Schools Intensive”, a workshop series designed to support newly approved schools in their planning year
- Mentored school leaders of newly approved schools

FUTURE LEADERS INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL 9/99- 7/08, *Co-Founder, Principal, Teacher*

- Designed and implemented an arts inclusive extended day and year K-8 school to serve 300 students in Harlem, NY
- Administered all aspects of school program including hiring, supervision, curriculum development and professional development
- Co-authored charter school application leading to the school's conversion to charter status as of July 2005
- Mentored aspiring principals through New Leaders for New Schools and through university based administrative internship programs
- Partnered with Responsive Classroom, Developmental Designs, Teacher’s College and Mathematics in The City
- Fundraised over a half-million dollars annually

NEW YORK CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL 198 9/94- 6/99, *Classroom teacher: grades 3,4,5,6*

- Facilitated learning through process-oriented teaching and assessment driven instruction using Balanced Literacy, Teachers College Writing Workshop, and TERC mathematics
- Developed and presented workshops on elements of the Balanced Literacy Program including Guided Reading and Shared Reading
- Participated in District 2’s Professional Development Lab as a Mentor Teacher

NEW YORK CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL 72 9/93-6/94, *Classroom teacher: grade 5*

- Provided child-centered learning in an inquiry-based setting
- Participated in inclusion program with special education class, grades 5-6

RELATED EXPERIENCE

National Board Certification

K-6 Generalist

January, 2000

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF DENVER GRADUATE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Animals in Human Health Certification, December 2015

TEACHERS COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, New York, NY

Coursework for SAS and SDS administrative licensure completed June, 2000

FORDHAM UNIVERSITY, GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION, New York, NY

Master of Science in Elementary Education (K-6) awarded June, 1993

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT PURCHASE, Purchase, NY

Bachelor of Fine Arts awarded December, 1990