Amalia Lopez

Amalia Lopez is the Principal of Alternative Education learning communities in Lindsay Unified School District. She has served Lindsay Unified for 17 years and began her career as a high school English learning facilitator and has served in many roles, including the Director of Special Projects, the Teacher-School Leader federal grant manager, curriculum and instruction specialist, English department chair, and literacy specialist. In addition, she teaches for the Tulare County Office of Education New Teacher and Leader Development program with course instruction of new teachers. She is one of the chief authors of the Robert Marzano publication about Lindsay Unified's educational transformation, *Beyond Reform: Systemic Shifts Toward Personalized Learning* as well as the forthcoming anthology, *Competency-Based Practices: Factors for Successful Implementation*. She was the recipient of the 2020 ASU+GSV Innovative Educator of the Year and the 2024 CCEA+ Region 3 Administrator of the Year awards. She has a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction for English Learners and is currently working on her doctorate in Leadership and Innovation in Education.

Katelaine Rojas

Katelaine Rojas has been teaching at John J. Cairns Continuation High School for the past five years, beginning her career there as a resident teacher. She currently serves as a Social Sciences, ELA, and Graduate Success learning facilitator. She earned a bachelor's degree in Political Science from California State University, Fresno. She later studied Learner Motivation and Culturally Responsive Classroom Practices through the University of Sioux Falls. Katelaine is currently pursuing a master's degree in Education Technology and Instructional Design. In addition to teaching, she serves as the advisor for the school's Civics Club, supporting learners in developing civic engagement and leadership skills. Her work focuses on creating engaging, culturally responsive learning environments that support learner motivation and success.

Erik Gonzales

Erik Gonzales serves as the Coordinator of Student Support for Lindsay Alternative Education schools in Lindsay Unified School District and brings over 17 years of experience working with learners who face some of the most significant challenges in education. His prior roles include serving as a Reconnecting Youth Counselor at Lindsay High School, a Student Advocate at Alternative Education, and a Learning Facilitator in Lindsay Community Day School. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and a Master's Degree in Education from National University. In 2016, he was awarded both the CCEA+ Classified Employee of the Year for Region 3 and the Tulare County Office of Education Excellence in Education Classified Employee of the Year Award for Tulare County.