

**OBJECTIVE:** Equity- focused educational leader, author, and learning dedicated to creating a positive learning environment and preparing students to be agents of change and leaders in post graduate and global worlds.

**EDUCATION:**

- ❑ Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction; Concordia University Chicago, IL; December 2019 (focus on equity)
- ❑ MA in Educational Leadership; Concordia University Chicago, IL; May 2014
- ❑ BA in English; Certificate in Secondary English Education; Montclair State University, Upper Montclair, NJ; Concentration in Education; January 2003
- ❑ NBCT Certification; May 2025

**CERTIFICATION:**

- ❑ Type 75 Supervision Certificate in State of Illinois issued June 2014
- ❑ Teaching Certificate in the State of Illinois 2012- Highly Qualified to Teach English and Language Arts 6-12
- ❑ MS Social Science Endorsement May 2016
- ❑ Standard Teaching Certificate for Secondary English (6-12) - State of New Jersey

**LANGUAGES:**

- ❑ English – First Language
- ❑ Arabic- Second Language

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

**Education Unfiltered Consulting**

*Consultant for Educational Organizations; August 2016-Current*

- Working with National Board Certification to develop equity standards for all NBCT candidates nationwide
- Currently working with Google on developing a technology and SEL framework
- Use adult learning theory principles to develop professional learning opportunities for adults in different positions of a school system
- Work with schools to determine needs and design custom tailored professional learning experiences for schools rooted in data.
- Pilot and provide feedback on products for edtech companies, ensuring alignment with instructional best practices and equity-driven pedagogy.
- Coach systems to move curricular and instructional work forward
- Work with schools to implement Edtech tools for transformative teaching
- Conducted school wide needs analysis in several public and private schools as a preface for strategic planning
- Facilitated using data to create a strategic plan
- Planned and conducted professional development; Purposeful Integration of Technology, Differentiated Instruction, Active Learning, Equity Work with Students, etc.
- Featured speaker in national and international conferences on equity, transformative Edtech use, strategic planning, effective instruction, PBL, SEL, community inclusion, systems project planning and execution
- Taught international courses on equity and instruction, PBL, and EdTech use
- Currently, working with several districts and schools to develop strategic equity plans for school organizations.
- Working with the United Arab Emirates to create a leadership certification process and align assessments.

### **Saint Xavier University; Chicago, IL**

*Assistant Professor- Education Division; August 2025 - present*

- Write and execute graduate and undergraduate courses for pre-service teachers.
- Chair and facilitate for the division's curriculum committee.
- Mentor pre-service teachers and support portfolio development.
- Build partnerships with neighboring communities to support our programming.

### **Maine West High School; Des Plaines, IL**

*English Department Chair; District Equity Committee Leader; August 2023 - May 2025*

- Lead entire team in rewriting a curriculum rooted in global citizenship
- Lead team in learning and implementing grading for equity practices including standards based grading.
- Work with PLTs to vertically and horizontally align the curriculum.
- Develop a ML model of curriculum and supports within the mainstream curriculum.
- Plan and execute district equity and diversity committee initiatives as member of the Equity and Diversity District Leadership Committee
- Create a literacy curriculum for students needing Tier 1 Literacy support.
- Thought partner and mentor for the Student Equity Board.
- Plan professional development to support developing the skill level of all teachers to implement curricular change.
- Create and facilitate affinity spaces for students and for staff.

### **East Leyden High School; Franklin Park, IL**

*HS English Teacher; District Equity Committee Leader; September 2019- June 2023*

- Plan and execute district equity and diversity committee initiatives as member of the Equity and Diversity District Leadership Committee
- Plan and execute first Student Day of Action Equity Conference
- Thought partner and mentor for the Student Equity Board.
- Work with PLC to develop and assess effectiveness of curriculum at 9th, 11th, and 12th AP instructional levels

### **Homer Junior High School; Homer Glen, IL**

*7<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher Leader; August 2015- September 2019*

- District Leadership Team and School Leadership Team
- Facilitated using data to create a strategic
- Leading of Inter-District PLC initiative
- Member of articulation team to ensure vertical and horizontal alignment within district
- Designed Curriculum for 7<sup>th</sup> grade students with diverse needs.
- Initiated and leading cohort of district teachers through NCBT process
- Founded and led Diversity Committee and working on a school/district plan

### **Ridge Central School; Chicago Ridge, IL**

*Administrative Intern Grades PreK-5; Sept- May 2014*

- Developed plan to train and implement a new writing program for all grades.
- Modified evaluation to integrate Danielson.

- Member of Rising Star Committee.
- Worked with grade level teams to integrate new standards.
- Participated in the planning of parent workshops, after school programs, and special needs planning for standardized tests.
- Worked with staff to implement assessment for learning.
- Evaluated staff and worked to develop remediation plans and action plans for holistic professional development.

### **QA Academy**

*Associate Director of Four QI Schools; October 2013- June 2015*

- Aligned school curriculum with changes in national reform.
- Led a team to write standards for Arabic and Islamic Studies.
- Aligned evaluation tool to Danielson model.
- Evaluated principals and aided them in evaluating teachers.
- Designed differentiated professional development for principals and teachers.
- Initiated a PTA committee and community outreach program to involve community members.
- Led team to establish a policies and procedures manual as well as student and faculty handbook.
- Worked with the board to create a strategic plan and aligned to teacher work plans.
- Revised job descriptions for all positions and aligned them to respective evaluations.

### **Abu Dhabi Education Council (ADEC)**

*Senior Specialist of Standards and Professional Development, Pedagogy and Resources; 2011-2013*

- Revised professional standards for all work positions in school settings
- Worked with a team to write and benchmark standards for K-6 English, Math, and Science
- Revised and wrote curriculum documents for government schools in English, Science, and Math
- Analyzed and coordinated customization of curriculum resources to ensure appropriateness with regards to culture and religion and create relevance
- Trained Principals, Heads of Faculty and teachers on implementation of revised curriculum and improving the quality of teaching in classes in over 250 schools
- Worked with a team to create Emirate wide baseline assessments for core subjects
- Analyzed data and conducted PD on how to use data to improve the quality of teaching
- Observed classes in public schools and used collected data to create a nationwide PD plan integrating various regional needs

### **Glenelg American School of Abu Dhabi**

*Acting Director of Curriculum; 2009- 2011, Head of Department grades 6-12; 2009- 2011*

- Coordinated PD for the entire staff for all three sister schools K-12
- Established a unit plan template for backwards design in all subject areas
- Established cross curricular teaching at all grade levels including a fully integrated humanities program
- Chaired the Accreditation Committee; successfully acquiring candidacy for the affluent Middle States Accreditation
- Led several projects: Academic Quality Control, Annual Graduation, School Improvement Plan, Teacher Training and Evaluation, etc.

- Instructor of English grades 11 and 12
- Led a committee of teachers in integrating the Common Core Standards into the curriculum
- Created six unit modules for each grade level aligned in all aspects from grade to grade using backwards design with AP standards as the final outcome
- Pioneered the Readathon K-12 and led the first Model United Nations Team in a local AD conference
- Modified an enhanced the Immersion program for students struggling in the mainstream classes

### **Choueifat International School**

*Department Chair grades 6 -13; 2007- 2009*

- Trainer and head of the secondary section; 6-13
- Certified teacher of AP and A level college level literature courses

### **IEF Schools: Totowa, NJ**

*English Coordinator / Teacher 5<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> grades; 2000-2007*

- Developed curriculum for grades 5-12
- Teacher of Language Arts at 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grade and honor courses 9-12
- Head of the yearbook committee
- Director and coordinator of the school 'Writing Lab'
- Head of the Graduation Committee

### **Secaucus Public School; Secaucus, NJ**

*Student Teacher Grade; 1999-2000*

- Teacher of Language Arts at 5th, 6th, and 7th grade levels
- Assisted teacher in writing lesson plans, conducting student projects and teaching lessons
- Worked on a team to draw cross curricular connections

### **PUBLICATIONS:**

- Dissertation (2019): [Perceptions of Inclusion and Belonging of Arab American Students](#)
- Chapter in Book (2022): [Navigating Precarity in Educational Contexts](#)
- Chapter in Book (2023): [The Intersections of Critical Pedagogy, Critical Literacy and Social Justice: Toward Empowerment, Equity, and Education for Liberation](#)
- Chapter in Book (April 2025): Moments and Movements
- ASCD Publication (2019): [Parents and the Community as Springboards in Achieving Culturally Diverse Inclusivity](#)
- NCTE/ CEL Journal (2023): [From Interrogation to Action: Transformative Equity in English Classrooms](#)
- BIPOC Blog (2020): [My Insights in 26 Letters](#)
- NCTE Blog (2022): [The Miseducation of Americans on Arab and Muslim Identities](#)
- Co- Author of Book (May 2025) Pedagogies of Voice: a Corwin Publication

## **FELLOWSHIPS:**

- Acosta Fellowship 2027
- [Liberated Ed SEL Fellowship](#) 2026
- [Pulitzer Teacher Leader Fellow](#) 2022
- [Our Voice Alliance Keynote Speaker Fellow](#) 2018

## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:**

- IDEA Administrator of the Year 2026
- Top 50 Educator Trailblazers 2025
- Finalist for Illinois Teacher of the Year 2023
- Cook County Teacher of the Year 2023
- English Leadership Quarterly Best Article Award Recipient 2024
- ISTE 20 to Watch Award Winner 2023
- CEL Educational Leader Award Winner 2023
- IDEA Teacher of the Year 2022
- Nominated for an Apple Distinguished Educator 2022
- Inspirational Eagle Award (two time winner) 2021/2022
- Homer Teacher of the Year 2018

## **PRESENTATIONS:**

- Our Voice Academy Keynote Speaker 2019
- Community Dinner Speaker and Facilitator 2019, 2021, 2022
- Featured as a special guest in 15+ podcasts
- CPS Equity Professional Development 2020
- CUSD Presenter 2020
- Syracuse Schools Keynote Speaker 2020
- ISTE Equity Pre-Conference Workshop Facilitator 2020
- Ridgewood Public Schools Keynote Speaker 2021
- IDEACON Featured Speaker 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023
- NCTE, IATE, and ELATE Conference Presenter 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023
- ISTE Conference Speaker 2022, 2023
- South Holland Keynote Speaker 2023
- TCTELA Speaker 2023, 2025
- CEL Keynote Speaker 2023
- ISTE Keynote Speaker 2023
- Wakelet Keynote Speaker 2023
- GSOLE Keynote Speaker 2024
- Learning Forward Keynote Speaker 2025

- Maine English Conference 2025
- Dominican University Keynote 2025

**ADDITIONAL LEADERSHIP ROLES:**

- Illinois State Board of Education Superintendent's Teacher Advisory Group
- National Council of Teachers of English Secondary Section Nominating Committee Member
- National Council of Teachers of English Arab Caucus Chair
- National Council of Teachers of English Committee Against Racism & Bias in the Teaching of English Member
- Our Voice Alliance Board Member
- Arab American Education Network Founder and Board Member
- International Science and Technology In Education Educational PLN Leader
- NAME member and leader
- Google tech and equity framework developer
- Writing of National Board Equity Standards Committee Member
- Book Love Foundation Advisory Board Member

**REFERENCES:**

Available Upon Request