

Jcolon-rivas@hartfordschools.org

José Colón - Rivas, Ph. D

Executive Profile

Multi-faceted experience with executive management of organizations; particular strengths include:

- Accomplished, innovative educational professional, offering strong academic preparation along with more than twenty five years of achievement in visible and responsible roles.
- Developing and implementing innovative programs, products and services.
- Working successfully with constituent groups including boards, committees, volunteers, and external audiences.
- Building and retaining exceptional staffs and creating excellent work environments.
- Overseeing and coordinating all aspects of budgeting and financial management.
- Leading organizations and departments through periods of substantial growth and transition.

Experience

Chief of Operations and Engagement – Hartford Public Schools
2016- present Hartford, CT

The Chief Operations Officer serves in a staff capacity to all administrators in the district regarding matters pertaining to operations. Provides oversight and direction related to operational functions, strategic planning, budgeting and financial planning, purchasing, facilities, safety & security, CHOICE, the Welcome Center, community engagement and student transportation. Assists the Superintendent in the task of providing leadership in developing, achieving, and maintaining the best possible educational programs and services. The Chief Operations Officer is a member of the Superintendent's Senior Staff and the Cabinet.

Director - Department of Families, Children, Youth and Recreation
2011-2016 Hartford, CT

Coordinate all activities of public agencies operating in the city implementing policies affecting families, youth and children to assure consistency with best educational and recreational practices. Recommend policy, budgets and coordinating activities for all city and school-administered early care, youth, recreation and education programs. Serve as designated liaison to the state Department of Education and the State

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Department of Social Services on all matters relating to youth services and school readiness. Serve as primary liaison between the Mayor's cabinet and Hartford Public Schools, to assure early childhood, youth policies affecting the public schools are consistent and correlated to the City's Goals. Coordinate public and non-governmental planning activities in Hartford on policies and services to young children, youth and their families. Develop and coordinate a comprehensive resource development plan to seek and obtain additional revenues to advance early childhood, youth and recreation policies and programs.

Office for Young Children Executive Director
2005-2011 Hartford, CT

Responsible to advocate, coordinate, organize and implement policies and resources to advance the *Blueprint* For Young Children, including coordination and oversight of public and private programs, impacting the education, development and health of Hartford's children ages birth to eight years old. Major duties include: oversee implementation of *Blueprint* building blocks, develop and implement outcome measures and monitoring systems for assessment of *Blueprint* goals with an emphasis on educational achievement, and integrate all early childhood programs and services into a unified system; educational advisor on early childhood matters to the Cabinet for Young Children.

Senior Director for Curriculum and Instruction
2001-2005 Hartford, CT

Coordinated the development of instructional programs for the Hartford Public Schools. Assisted in the formulation of philosophy and goals for the regular and special instructional programs. Recommended changes in instructional programs for the District to the Superintendent. Assisted administrative and teaching staff in effecting desirable curricular changes and in the preparation of curricular materials for all levels. Encouraged the development, publication and use of new instructional materials by the professional staff. Coordinated and directed the work of staff who develop District-wide programs and curricula to meet the varying needs of the students. Established procedures for implementing new instructional programs or changes in current instructional programs. Provided for continuous evaluation and assessment of the District's curricular and instructional programs in order to measure their effectiveness. Worked with staff to ensure vertical and horizontal continuity and articulation of the instructional program throughout Central Office and the Schools. Responsible for the implementation/coordination of the school district accreditation process.

High School Principal – Hartford Public High School
1998-2001 Hartford, CT

Established and promoted high standards and expectations for all students and staff for academic performance and responsibility for behavior. Managed, evaluated and supervised effective and clear procedures for the operation and functioning of the school consistent with the philosophy, mission, values and goals of the school including instructional programs, extracurricular activities, discipline systems to ensure a safe and orderly climate, building maintenance, program evaluation, personnel management, office operations, and emergency procedures. Ensured

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compliance with all laws, board policies and civil regulations. Supervised the instructional programs of the school, evaluating lesson plans and observing classes on a regular basis to encourage the use of a variety of instructional strategies and materials consistent with research on learning and child growth and development.

High School Assistant Principal – Bulkeley High School
1995-1998 Hartford, CT

Coordinated assigned student activities and services, kept abreast of developments in school curriculum and instruction and provided leadership in determining the appropriateness of incorporating recent developments and trends into the school's educational program, encouraged and supported development of innovative instructional programs, helped teachers pilot such efforts when appropriate, ensured that all facilities were operated effectively and efficiently and saw that applicable health and safety standards were met, established schedules and procedures for the supervision of students in non-classroom areas, observed employee performance, recorded observations, and conducted evaluation conferences. Established the annual master schedule for instructional programs, ensuring sequential learning experiences for students consistent with the school's philosophy, mission statement and instructional goals.

School Teacher – Bulkeley High School
1991-1994 Hartford, CT

Developed age-appropriate lesson plans and lead classroom instruction in all subject areas, used an inquiry-based approach with an emphasis on scientific process, incorporated innovative uses of technology into the classroom, built a strong bond with students, parents and colleagues to inspire a shared commitment to quality education and employed kinesthetic, visual and auditory learning styles to make lessons interesting and to reach all students in the way they learn best.

Education

Penn State University – State College, PA Ph.D. Curriculum and Instruction ; Child Development Education	1992
Interamerican Universsity – Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico M.Ed., Administration and Supervision; Curriculum Development	1987
University of Puerto Rico – Cayey, Puerto Rico Bachelor Degree in Education Elementary and Secondary Education – Mathematics	1986

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Awards and Fellowships

Champion for Children Award - 2016
Champion for Children Award - 2014
National Child Labor Committee - Lewis Hine Award – 2008
NEASC- Leadership Accreditation Award - 2004
Hartford Public Schools – Principal’s Leadership Award – 2000
Penn State University - Dean’s Research Award- 1990
National Science Foundation Fellowship Award- 1989
University of Puerto Rico - Student’s Leader Award– 1986

References

Conferences Presentations and References available upon request