

CURRICULUM VITAE

PERSONAL DATA:

Name: COLLINS AYANLAJA, Carole Rene'
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As Assistant Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership, I educate and elevate adult learners through delivery of interactive instruction that prepares professionals for a career in teacher leadership and service as principals and superintendents.

My professional career spans 23 years in public school teaching, school leadership, district leadership, and university faculty. My charge is to promote equity and educational success at all levels. An internal lens that addresses the influence of racial, social, economic, and cultural conditions and their impact on school climate, teaching, leadership, student outcome, family engagement, and board governance guides my content and delivery.

I engage in exploratory inquiry built upon constructivist paradigms. My teaching, research, practice, and service aims are to promote opportunity and access for all students, families, and communities.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Educational Policy and Administration—University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL.
School of Education-Department of Policy Studies 12/2011
“Emerging Lenses: Perspectives of Parents of Black Students on School Success”
M.A. Urban Teaching-Concordia University, River Forest, IL. 5/1994
B.A. Politics- Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL. 5/1987

CERTIFICATION

Illinois Administrative K-12: Endorsement: Superintendent
Illinois Standard Elementary Teaching: Endorsements: Self Contained General Education Kindergarten through Grade 9, French Upper Elementary/Junior High, Social Science Upper Elementary/Jr. High
Illinois High School 6-12 Teaching: Endorsements: High School Civics/Political Science; Sociology
Connecticut Initial Educator License 092 Intermediate Administrator, 093 Superintendent
Iowa Professional Administrator License: Endorsements: Principal, Superintendent, Area Administrator, And Special Education Administrator PreK-12

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Assistant Professor
8/2016-present Eastern Illinois University-Charleston, IL
Tenure Track Faculty Appointment-College of Education and Professional Studies,
Department of Educational Leadership

Superintendent

5/2014-6/2015-Rich Township H.S. District 227- Matteson, IL

Served as Chief Education Officer of district consisting of three comprehensive high schools

Hosted BOE retreat to develop BOE goals and agreements
Launched articulation meetings with feeder district leadership to strengthen academic pathway
Developed and presented Master Strategic Plan for Continuous Improvement to Board and community
Engaged in teacher negotiations using interest based bargaining approach
Implemented technology-based math/reading universal screener and interim assessment to measure student progress
Engaged Balanced Restorative Justice practices and district-wide PBIS training
Created District Climate and Culture Committee (DCCC) to monitor Crisis Plan and established Law Enforcement Roundtables
Established (3) site-based School-within-a-School learning environments to re-integrate outplaced students
Managed 68 mil budget and provided 3 year budget projection to Board
Expanded Prairie State STEM program enrollment and developed STEM summer program with neighboring feeder district
Data (EOY-3/2015) Attendance +3%; Reading+.57%; Math +6.86%

Chief Academic Officer/Chief Officer-Research and Assessment

7/2012-5/2014-Hartford Public Schools- Hartford, CT.

Served as a member of Superintendent's cabinet as senior administrator of Office of Academics
Led district curriculum administrators, assessment and evaluation team, and intervention specialists for 50+ schools, 22,000 students
Directed development of Common Core Implementation Plan and presented to leadership at BOE retreat
Engaged district research agenda and reported data to Board, administration, and community
Oversaw implementation of state assessment and intervention programs (Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBAC) and Positive Behavior/Intervention Supports (PBIS)), Summer Ready Start, Read 180
Negotiated contract and implemented Math 180 for intervention at middle and high school attendance centers
Successfully presented Standards Based Grading policy to Board which resulted in policy adoption

Director of Curriculum and Assessment

7/2010-6/2012 - Sioux City Community Schools- Sioux City, IA.

Served as a member of Superintendent's cabinet and the combined administration/union cabinet
Led district Head teachers, Alternative Education teachers, and Alternative high school programs
Implemented K-12 common assessments; developed ACT Improvement Plan
Oversaw administration of standardized Iowa Assessments, ELDA, PLAN, and ACT/ Explore in 24 schools and managed curriculum adoptions
Launched development of Board supported 3rd grade Standards Based Report Card
Managed textbook, Iowa Core, and assessment budgets

Principal

8/2008-7/2010-Burr Oak Elementary- S.D. 132-Calumet Park, Illinois

9/2007-8/2008-Calumet Middle School-S.D. 132-Calumet Park, Illinois

Out of school suspension decrease 67% (featured in Building Leadership: A Practitioners Bulletin Vol. 17, No.8, Illinois Principal's Association)
AYP 08 Reading school wide; AYP 09-10 Math school wide, Reading+10%- ELL; +13% grade 3

7/2004-9/2007 Applied Arts, Science, and Technology Academy at Orr-Chicago Public Schools
Founded new high school through Chicago High School Redesign Initiative (CHSRI)/ Gates Foundation
Graduation 05-07 95%; Attendance 04-06 +10.5%; UNCF Scholarship winner 06; PSAE 05 +5%
meets/exceeds reading; ACT 07 +2 pts.

Established AP Literature, AP Language, AP U.S. History, and AP Statistics 05-07

7/2003-7/2004 Woodward Career Technical High School- Cincinnati Public Schools

Founded new high school through Knowledge Works and Cincinnati Public Schools

Attendance +95%; Developed partnerships-U of Cincinnati, Proctor and Gamble, Turner Construction

Assistant Principal

4/2001-8/2003 Tesla High School for Pregnant and Parenting Teens- Chicago Public Schools

Evaluated teacher practice, led professional development, and managed business and university partnerships

6/1998-7/2000 Wilson Elementary/ Wentworth Intermediate Schools—S.D. 155 Calumet City, IL.

Opened new intermediate school; Chaired District Teacher Evaluation and Behavior

Management Committees; Monitored grants

Professional Development Research Associate

7/2000-4/2001 University of Illinois at Chicago

Researched, planned, and delivered literacy professional development to Chicago teachers; Taught Administrative course

K-12 Teacher

8/1993-7/1998 Chicago Public Schools

6-9 Social Science, LA, French, Math: union delegate, mentor teacher candidate, summer social center supervisor

Senior Sales Representative

3/1989-9/1993 Kemper Financial Services, Chicago

ADJUNCT TEACHING, CONSULTANCIES, RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS, WRITING, and PRESENTATIONS

Adjunct Teaching

2016 Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Illinois

2013/2014 Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, Connecticut

School Policy and Law; The Superintendency

2009/2010 Concordia University, Chicago

Cognitive Theory; Career Counseling; Contemporary Issues in Curriculum; American Education Foundations

2001 University of Illinois, Chicago

Administrative Issues in Instructional Leadership

Consultancies

5/2017 Brookwood SD 167 Glenwood, IL-Parent University and New Teacher Orientation Professional Development

10/2016 Matteson SD 159 Matteson, IL-Parent/Family University Professional Development

10/2015-present University of Leicester, Leicester, UK-School of Education

4/2016-6/2016 Prologue Schools, INC, Chicago-Consultant Superintendent
7/2015-Brookwood SD 167, Glenwood, IL--Executive Leadership Professional Development

Research

2016- Eastern Illinois University-Turbulence in Education Governance Systems-Knowledge in Action for Equity and Renewal (in process)-Principal Investigator
2016- University of Leicester, UK Empowering the Young for Societal Innovation for Equity and Renewal EYSIER-pending
2015 University of Leicester, UK "Participation in a School System-Parents' Authentic Participation in a School System to Advocate for their Black Children"-Co Principal Investigator

Writing

2015 District 227 website
From History to the Great Story
The Critical Connection: School, Parents, and Community

2013/14 Hartford Public Schools website
Getting to the Core of STEM
Making Common Core Common: Creating Networks Between School, Home, and Community

4/2013 Connecticut Mirror- Op-Ed Getting Ready for the New Common Core Curriculum

Presentations

11/2016 **Presenter** Student Teacher Symposium, Concordia University, River Forest, IL "Navigating Educational Leadership and Policy: Teaching is Leading"
10/2016 **Presenter** School District 159, Matteson, IL Parent/Family University "Setting Educational Goals for My Child with the Teacher"
10/2016 **Presenter** Triple I Conference, Chicago, IL " Perspectives of Parents of Black Children"
7/2016 **Presenter** Harmony House, Leicester, UK. Ethics of Love Lecture
6/2016 **Presenter** Harmony House, Leicester, UK. Empowering Trust and Community Cohesion Panel
4/2016 **Presenter** World Educational Research Association (WERA), Washington DC
"A Bourdieian analysis of institutional racism"
4/2016 **Chair** American Educational Research Association Conference (AERA), Washington DC
Roundtable "Access, Aspirations, and Capital: How Tracking Shapes Trajectories"
1/2016 **Presenter** Superintendents Commission for the Study of Demographics and Diversity, Tinley Park IL
"Parents as Partners-Empowerment and Involvement"
11/2015 **Presenter**-National Association of Black School Educators (NABSE), Washington DC
Superintendent Strand "Sister Supt's: Women in Leadership: Networks, Support, and Survival"
9/2015 **Discussant** European Conference for Educational Research (ECER), Budapest, Hungary
"International Boundary Crossing Study of Higher Education Institutions Working in Partnership with Schools to Improve Participation in Processes and Practices"
4/2015 **Chair** Edu-Lead Research Group-North-West University, Potchefstroom, South Africa
"Lead, manage, and govern in a diverse and complex context towards quality education for all"
4/2015 **Presenter** Edu-Lead Research Group-North-West University, Potchefstroom, South Africa
"Black parents and Black Children's Authentic Participation in a School System"
9/2014 **Discussant** European Conference for Educational Research (ECER), Porto, Portugal
"International Boundary Crossing Study of Higher Education Institutions Working in Partnership with Schools to Improve Participation in Processes and Practices"
7/2013 **Delegate** British Educational Leadership, Management, and Administration Society (BELMAS), Edinburgh, Scotland
4/2013 **Attendee** American Educational Research Association (AERA), San Francisco, CA.

2/2005 **Presenter** Chicago Principals and Administrators Association (CPAA)
“Small Schools Initiative Discussion-Rezin Orr Campus, Chicago Public Schools”

VOLUNTEERISM

Education Service

2016 Member International Journal of Leadership in Education Editorial Board
2016 Member Vision 20/20 Policy Pillar Committee -Highly Effective Educators
Peer Reviewer
National Council of Professors of Educational Administration (NCPEA)
International Journal of Multicultural Education
Journal of National Association of Black School Educators (JABSE)
American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting

Community Service

2016 Deacon Board Presbyterian Church (USA) Sixth Grace Presbyterian Church, Chicago-Chair, Christian Education Committee; Teens in Christian Knowledge (TICK) Coordinator; Environmental Stewardship Committee member; Social Justice Committee member
2016 Debate Judge Chicago Debate Commission, Chicago
2013 Board Member Greater Hartford Male Youth Leadership Program—Hartford, Connecticut

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND MEMBERSHIPS

2013 Leadership Greater Hartford Summit Program Graduate
2012 Center for Reinventing Public Education Portfolio Schools Leadership Development
2011 Succeed with True-Speak, McGrath Training Systems
2010-11 Balanced Leadership-McCREL Corporation
2007-10 Target Teach-Evans Newton, Inc.
2007 The Leadership Challenge (Kouzes/Posner) 2006-08 University of Illinois-Chicago Liautaud School of Business- Emotional Intelligence Cohort Graduate
2002 Superintendent Summer Intern-Washington DC Public Schools

Memberships: Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA); American Educational Research Association(AERA); European Educational Research Association(EERA); National Association of Black School Educators(NABSE), National Council of Professors of Educational Administration (NCPEA); Horace Mann League, Superintendent’s Commission for the Study of Demographics and Diversity (SCSDD)