

## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

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With almost 20 year of K-12 education experience as an Executive Director, Principal, Teacher, Technology Facilitator, PAR Assistant, BTSA Support Provider, etc., I have gained invaluable knowledge and insights pertaining to access for 21<sup>st</sup> Century learners' academic success. I understand the types of support needed to assist teachers and educational leaders in the creation of student centered classrooms. Working as a Cohort Advisor, Core Adjunct Professor and University Supervisor, my knowledge, skills and expertise assist teacher candidates in garnering best practices to promote student academic success and move students closer to their dreams. Additionally, I have worked with doctoral students doing dissertation work, masters students doing action research, and with the Accreditation process for both K-12 and Higher Ed. My research agenda focuses on engaging diverse and at risk students for academic success from various perspectives such as social class, models of leadership, personalized/student centered learning, educational technology, and identity.

## CERTIFICATION

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Tier 2 Administrative Credential - 10/2008  
Tier 1 Administrative Credential - 6/2003  
California Clear Multi-subject Teaching Credential - 10/2000 (Current)  
California Multi-Subject Preliminary Credential - 10/1995  
CBEST 4/16/94 Reg. # 253256760  
CalTPA Assessor - 2015 (Task 1-4)

## EDUCATION

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University of Redlands, Redlands, CA  
**Doctorate in Educational Leadership for Social Justice** 2011-2014  
Dissertation: "Social Class Influences: Student Engagement of Upper Middle Class African American Students"

California State University, Fullerton, California  
**Masters of Science in Educational Leadership** 2001-2003  
Thesis: "Parent Involvement and Reading Success"

Southern California Christian College (Vanguard University), Costa Mesa, California  
**Bachelor of Arts, Liberal Studies**  
**Bachelor of Arts, Cross Cultural Ministries** 1992-1995  
Area of Concentration: Education

West Coast Christian College, Fresno, California  
**Associates of Arts Liberal Studies** 1990-1992

## HIGHER EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

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**California State University, Dominguez Hills** 2016 - Present  
**College of Education, School Leadership Program**  
▪ **Assistant Professor**

**University of Redlands, School of Education**  
▪ **Adjunct Professor** 2011-Present  
▪ **University Supervisor in Student Teaching** 2012 - Present  
▪ **Cohort Advisor** 2015  
▪ **Intern Mentorship Program** 2015  
▪ **Dissertation Support for Graduate Student** 2014-2015  
▪ **Center for Educational Justice (Dr. Jose Lalas)** 2012-2015

**Cal TPA Assessor** 2015 - 2016  
• **University of Redlands**  
• **National University**  
• **Azusa Pacific University**

## EDUCATIONAL/INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY EXPERIENCE

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During my time as a professional educator, I have used various application and software to support teaching and learning for both adults and children. Digital learning tools such as computers, and handheld devices broadens the learning experience making learning available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In addition to building 21<sup>st</sup> century skill, digital learning tools have been shown to increase student engagement and motivation. It can also create dynamic communication that connects students, teachers and parents in informative and collaborative ways. I have used technology to facilitate the teaching and learning with some of the following apps. This is not an exhaustive list.

- Collaboration (ex. Google Apps for Education, Moodle, Google Groups, OptimalResume, Dropbox, Wikispaces)
- Investigation/Research/Reporting (ex. Wikispaces, ePortfolios, Prezi, PowerPoint, Jingo, podcasts)
- Language Arts Activities (ex. iReady ELA, Storia, StoryMaker Google Drive, iBooksAuthor, Prezi, TeacherTube, YouTube)
- Math Activities (ex. Khan Academy. iReady Math, IXL, MathFarm, STMath, TellingTime, YouTube)
- Personalized Learning (x. iReady, Spelling City, STMath, Science360, LearnZillion, TeachingChannel)
- Blended Learning (ex. Khan Academy, Google Education, Moodle, Smart Devices, PBSKids, National Geographic)
- Curriculum (ex. Digital Libraries, ebook collections, eferences, BrainPop, National Geographic)
- Incorporation of Smart Technology (Mimio Boards, Ipad, PollEverywhere, iClicker, Kindles)
- Communication (ex. Classroom Websites, Remind, Buzzmob, Google For Education, Edmodo, ClassDojo)

## PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS

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Fortner, K.M. (2014). Social Class Influences: Student Engagement of Upper Middle Class African American Students. University of Redlands ProQuest.

Lalas, J., Macias, A., Fortner, K., Flores, N., Blackman-Balogun, A., Vance, M. (2016). Who We Are and How We Learn: Educational Engagement and Justice for Diverse Learners. Cognella Publishing, San Diego

Fortner, K., and Lalas, J. (2017) Strategies of Engagement: Parent and School Connections in Challenges Associated with Cross-Cultural and At-Risk Student Engagement, edited by Gordon, R. and Lalas, J., IGI Global Publishing, Hershey, PA

## CURRENT RESEARCH

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My research agenda includes topics such as educational engagement, school leadership, diverse learners, transformative leadership, personalized learning, charter schools and educational technology. Currently: 1) Women Leadership in Education using the tenets of Transformative Leadership developed by Carolyn Shields as a lens to study how women who have been in educational leadership over 5 years practice transformative leadership. 2) Non-traditional Leadership in Schools. 3) Social Justice Discourse in K-12 Leadership.

## K-12 EDUCATION/ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

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Springs Charter School, Temecula, California 2013 - 2015  
**Founding Principal** – Orange County Quest

Edward B. Cole, Sr. Academy, Santa Ana, California 2003 - 2012  
**Founding Principal/Executive Director**

Andrew Jackson Elementary School, Santa Ana, California 1995-2003  
**Teacher – K-5, Mentor Teacher, Master Teacher, CBET Facilitator, BTSA Coach, Technology Facilitator, Grade Level Chair, UCI GRI Trainer, Junior Journal Editor, Title 1 Resource Teacher**

## COMMITTEE AND SERVICE

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- International Education, Language & Society Conference - Technical Planning Committee (2015)
- Santa Ana Cares Board Member (2015)
- Better Together Teacher Summit Planning Lead for University of Redlands (2015)

- Teachers Helping Teachers Conference Logistics Committee (2014 - 2015)
- University of Redlands Center for Educational Justice Summer Institute Planning Committee(2012 - 2015)
- University of Redlands CEJ Leadership Symposium Committee (2012 – 2014)
- CTC Accreditation Team University of Redlands (May 2015)
- BTSA Advisory Board Santa Ana Unified School District
- Celebration of Literacy in Education (COLE) Day
- California Charter School Association
- California Charter School Association - Orange County Leadership Collaborative
- California Charter School Advocacy (Sacramento, CA; Washington DC)
- Templo Calvario Community Development Corporation Leadership Staff
- ExED (Excellent Education for Charter Schools) New Markets Advisory Committee Meeting
- HOPEs Orange County Homeless Collaborative
- Santa Ana School Unified District Assessment Committee
- Santa Ana School Partnership Committee

## AWARDS

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- City of Santa Ana Celebrate Santa Ana Community Building Award
- County of Orange Santa Ana Community Building Award
- Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition Community Building Award
- Who's Who Among Executive and Professional
- Vanguard Honor Society
- Nominee for Black Educator of the Year - Orange County, CA

## PRESENTATIONS/TEACHING

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- **Palm Springs Unified School District Annual Parents as Learners Conference** – *“The Importance of Parent Involvement: What Things YOU Can Do To Help - Building Home-School Partnerships for Student Success”*
- **Education, Language & Society International Conference** – *“Social Class and Student Engagement”*
- **University of San Diego School of Education (Guest Speaker)** – *“Student Engagement and Parent Involvement”*
- **Palm Springs Unified Parent Center** – Keynote Speaker *“Student Engagement and Parent Participation”*
- **University of Redlands** – Intern Mentor Training, Master Teacher Training, Student Teacher Orientation
- **California Charter School's Association Orange County Regional Meeting** – *“Prop 39 procedures”, “Staff Buy-In”, “National Charter Day -Political Involvement”*
- **Quest Academy** – *“Having a Growth Mindset”, “Multi-aged Classrooms”, “Personalized Learning”, “Smarter Balance Testing”, “iReady”, “Using Google Apps for Education”, “Collaboration with Goggle Drive & Google Groups”, “Mimio Smart Boards”, “ST Math”, “iHistory”, “eReaders” & various other apps and software in preparation to be a digital campus.*
- **University of Redlands** – *“My Social Justice Leadership”, “Innovations in Charter Schools”, “Perspective Paper: Charter Schools as Agents of Educational Justice”, Case Study: “Role of the District Chief Business Office”, Case Study: “School Board Administration Policies & Regulations”, “Performing School Equity Audits”, “Cultural Competence and Educational Practice”, “Overview of Educational Justice”, “EL Levels & STAR Testing Results”*
- **Strategic Planning** - Templo Calvario Community Development Corporation, Living Faith Church
- **Santa Ana Unified School District Adult ESL Classes** – Villa Del Sol Complex (2 year Program)
- **Community Based Education Program** (technology based) – ESL Teacher (2 year Program)
- **Computers in the Classroom Course** – Jackson Elementary School

## LANGUAGES

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English – Native Language, Spanish – Speak, read and write with proficiency, Sign Language – Limited proficiency

## TECHNOLOGY

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I am proficient in the use of technology. I have extensive experience with both Mac and PC platforms. I am competent with all Microsoft Office applications including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, Outlooks as well as educational/instructional technology. I have experience in the use of smart boards and various types of presentation software. I also have experience with data analysis software such as NVivo, which is used to assist in data analysis in qualitative research and SPSS used for analysis of data in quantitative research.