

Michael De Sousa, Ed.D.

Community Centered and Equity Driven Leader

Phone: 510 754 7491
michael.j.desousa@gmail.com

PAST EXPERIENCE

The Oakland REACH, Oakland — Chief Program Officer

August 2020- November 2022

Design and manage the Literacy Liberation Center, which provided high-impact community tutors to Oakland youth. Design and manage a community-centered virtual hub that provides families with case management, direct access to quality education programs, leadership development, and career pathways programs.

Educate78, Oakland — Director of School & Community Leadership

June 2018 - August 2020

Served as Chief of Staff for the Literacy for All campaign, which galvanized support from OUSD, the Mayor's Office, Charter schools, and community-based organizations to ensure Oakland elementary schools use science-based approaches to early literacy. Coached leaders to design transformative schools in Oakland. Collaborated with school teams, leaders, and community members to improve educational opportunities for all of Oakland's children.

Leadership Public School, Hayward — Principal

July 2012 - June 2018

Led the redesign of the school's curriculum and programs using liberatory design processes and professional learning to better leverage technology, time, and resources to drive student-centered learning.

Downtown College Prep, San José — Principal

July 2009 - June 2012

Developed a school culture centered on the common values of community, commitment, and pride to create the conditions for transformational outcomes for youth.

Alameda Community Learning Center, Lead Facilitator

August 2002 - June 2008

Taught mathematics, science, physical education, and leadership courses. Served as Head of School and Dissemination Coordinator.

EDUCATION

Cal State East Bay, Hayward

Ed.D. Educational Leadership for Social Justice

August 2017 - May 2021

University of California, Berkeley

M.A. Education & Single Subject Teaching Credential

August 2000 - June 2002

University of California, Berkeley

B.S. Molecular and Cellular Biology

August 1996 - June 2000

SKILLS

Design and facilitation of professional learning & collaboration

Engaging public speaking to diverse audiences and stakeholders

Leading with vision, passion, relationships, and humility

Building and maintaining growth-oriented and antiracist learning cultures

Community-engaged design processes that address complex problems and build systemic solutions

PUBLICATIONS

Breakthrough Principals

Featured School Leader

Doctoral Research

Towards a Transformational Discourse for White School Leaders

KQED News

How a Parent-Led Project Is Reimagining Public Schools

LANGUAGES

Spanish- Proficient

Portuguese- Intermediate

