

Dr. Gabriella Duran Blakey has worked in education for over 20 years as an advocate for youth. She began her work in education as an AmeriCorps member in Las Cruces, New Mexico. After receiving her Bachelor of Science in Education from New Mexico State University taught high school in Everett, Washington and Albuquerque, New Mexico. She continued her education to pursue work in school administration and received her Masters of Arts in Educational Leadership from the University of New Mexico where she was recognized with the University of New Mexico Educational Leadership Program Distinction Award. She received her Doctorate in Educational Leadership at the University of New Mexico. Dr. Duran-Blakey has worked as a teacher, assistant principal, and principal at both the middle school and high school. At the district level she has served as Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Professional Development for Santa Fe Public Schools and the Associate Superintendent for Middle School Education for Albuquerque Public Schools (APS). She is currently the Associate Superintendent of Leadership and Learning of Learning Zone 1 in Albuquerque Public Schools. She has served as a leader in school and district initiatives including middle school redesign, curriculum board, policy advisory committee, athletics advisory committee, executive board member of the APS principal association, legislative liaison for the APS principal association, chair of the APS administrators' conference, and common core standards professional development leader. In 2010, she was awarded the New Mexico PTA Principal of the Year. In 2018, she was awarded the Administrative Support Award from the New Mexico National Board Certified Teacher Network. As an administrator she works to transform schools into learning communities focused on the belief that all students can learn and encourage staff to embrace ideas that are radically different than those that have been used to guide schools in the past. She believes firmly in providing an equitable education to all children and developing lifelong learners.