



DR. STEPHANIE DOWNEY TOLEDO



CENTRAL FALLS
SCHOOL DISTRICT
Staff Announcement
4/23/2018

Central Falls Names Dr. Stephanie Downey Toledo as new Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction/Chief Academic Officer

Central Falls, RI: Superintendent Victor F. Capellan is proud to announce that the district has selected a seasoned educator with an extensive knowledge base in serving urban students as its new Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction/Chief Academic Officer. Dr. Stephanie Downey Toledo was chosen from among 26 other candidates for her experience working with special education students, her knowledge of best practices for English language learners, and her commitment to early childhood education.

"I am pleased that Dr. Downey Toledo will serve as our academic leader and I look forward to the wealth of knowledge and experience she will bring to our school redesign efforts. Her qualifications, experience and passion for equity made her stand out from a very qualified pool of candidates and we couldn't be happier that she decided to join our team, Said Victor F. Capellan, Superintendent of Central Falls Schools.

Dr. Downey Toledo has just completed her Doctor of Education Leadership at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. She started as a classroom teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District for bilingual students with disabilities and then served similar populations for nearly a decade in the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE). Her most recent role before pursuing her Doctorate was as Deputy CEO for Special Education for the NYCDOE. As Deputy Chief, she oversaw both instructional and operational changes on behalf of 200,000 students with disabilities across 1,800 schools.

"I am excited about joining the Central Falls team and being a part of the redesign efforts in the district. I look forward to working with and learning together with the talented team of educators in Central Falls and will do all I can to give all students access to a quality education", said Dr. Downey Toledo.

Dr. Downey Toledo will also be able to add to the district's focus on creating life-long learners as she will also bring experience focused on the professional growth of adults and has taught as an appointed member of the faculty at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and Teachers College at Columbia University.

Dr. Downey Toledo is also a champion for equity in education and has worked to increase diversity in education leadership. She is the co-founder of SponsHER, an organization which seeks to close the gender gap in education leadership. With SponsHER she has led trainings on implicit bias, published an op-ed in The Huffington Post and attended the White House Summit on The United State of Women as a nominated change maker.

She replaces Ms. Edda Carmadello. She will work with the superintendent, the Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Reform, Ms. Ann Lynch and the entire administrative and teaching staff in Central Falls to implement the district's bold redesign plan.