KRISTEN VOLONAKIS-ROWLAND

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2017-2019

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

- School Administration
- SEL Curriculum Development
- Teacher Mentoring & Development
- Data Driven Instruction
- Progress Monitoring
- Equity & Cultural Responsiveness
- School Culture & Climate
- Program Management & Coordination
- Classroom Evaluation
- Lesson Planning
- Differentiated Learning Strategies
- Instructional Strategies
- Specially Designed Instruction (SDI)
- Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)
- Professional Development
- Student Development
- Leadership & Team Building
- School Discipline & Safety
- Parent Engagement
- Peer Mediation
- Restorative Justice
- Student Development
- Computer Literacy/ Digital Platforms

CERTIFICATIONS

School District Leader

College of Saint Rose - 2022

School Building Leader College of Saint Rose - 2017

Permanent School Psychologist

College of New Rochelle - 2004

AFFILIATIONS

Advanced Leadership Program for Aspiring Principals (ALPAP)

2023-2024- Executive Leadership Institute (ELI)

Assistant Principal Mentoring

2023-2024- New York State Education Department (NYSED)

District 29 Principal Pipeline

2025 Community School District 29

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY SUMMARY

Guided by integrity, compassion, and a steadfast belief in the transformative power of education, with the conviction that through collaborative efforts, the flame of intelligence continues to burn brightly within each student. Passionate and dedicated educational leader committed to fostering an inclusive, student-centered learning environment where all students can learn and thrive. Focused on empowering educators, cultivating collaboration, and implementing innovative strategies to elevate student outcomes. Strong advocate for equity, specially designed instruction, and holistic development, ensuring every student has the support and opportunities needed to succeed.

EXPERIENCE

Susan B. Anthony Middle School 29Q238

2019-Present

Hollis, NY - Assistant Principal

- Supervise Special Education/Instructional Support Services, Social Studies, Fine Arts, Foreign Language, related service providers, paraprofessionals, social workers, and deans
- Designed and initiated an intervisitation program between school and two District 29 partner schools to exchange feedback on effective lesson planning and implementation, share best practices, and foster collaboration, aiming to enhance instructional strategies and improve student achievement among students with disabilities (SWDs)
- Led and championed the special education team in implementing innovative practices, fostering collaboration, and orchestrating targeted interventions, contributing to the successful transition of the school, specifically designated as a Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) for subgroup students with disabilities from 2019-2023, to achieving a commendable status of good standing in 2024, as recognized by the New York State Education Department (NYSED)
- Increased SWD proficiency rates on NYS ELA exam from 6.2% in 2022 to 13% in 2024 and on NYS Math exam from 1.3% in 2022 to 19% in 2024
- Developed student data profiles to ensure best practices for high-quality IEP writing and developmentally appropriate alignment between standards, goals, and specially designed instruction (SDI)
- Support and supervise teachers in developing coherent, well-structured lesson plans and ensuring plans are executed with fidelity and target all student academic levels, as well as collaborating with the Instructional Leadership Team in implementing strategies to support staff in assessments, differentiation, progress monitoring and student engagement
- Infused Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) in programming to support students' academic and behavioral
- Implemented a schoolwide advisory program and integrated social-emotional learning (SEL) into instruction by forging partnerships with teachers, counselors, and community-based organizations
- Provide and create supportive school environment for students with diverse identities (i.e. LGBTQIA, racially, religiously, and/or socio-economically diverse backgrounds)
- Implemented preventative and restorative justice measures and approaches to discipline
- Supervise the Culture and Climate team, consisting of deans, counselors, mental health practitioners, and community-based organizations to assess procedures and maintain a safe schoolwide system, positive school culture, and foster meaningful relationships among students
- Serve as the safety point for the building. Liaised with NYPD and borough safety supports
- Supervise Queens Alumni Kappa League Program (subset of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc.), which provides young men the opportunity to develop leadership skills, establish life goals, and make constructive contributions to their community
- Developed and implemented schoolwide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), which drove evidence-based behavioral interventions for all students utilizing the PBIS Rewards online platform

Brooklyn Democracy Academy Transfer High School 23K643

Brooklyn, NY - Assistant Principal

- Supervised Special Education and ELL departments, pupil personnel/quidance and safety/discipline
- Monitored and tracked student credits to ensure timely promotion and graduation, collaborating with counselors and teachers to provide targeted interventions and supports
- Fostered collaborative environment to establish mentors between parents, staff and students which improved student attendance
- Oversight of the Parent Engagement Team which employed methodology to increase parent involvement in their child's academic career
- Supervised the analysis of school data by the College & Career Team to develop graduation increase rate strategies for over-age/under-credited students and instructed College/Career course
- Created a campus-wide system to execute emergency response procedures in a safe and structured manner
- Instructed College and Career and Music History elective courses

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TRAININGS

Restorative Circles: Racial Equity Training in the Education Area(s) of SEL through Restorative Approaches
2016/2021 - NYCDOE

SEL Implementation Lead Training, Strong Resilient NYC 2021- NYCDOE

Therapeutic Crisis Intervention (TCI)
Life Space Crisis Intervention

(LSCI) 2011- NYCDOE

Momentum Workshop Momentum Advanced Living Course

2024- Momentum Education

EDUCATION

College of Saint Rose/ Center for Integrated Teacher Education (CITE)

Educational Leadership & Administration

College of New Rochelle

Master of Science in School-Community Psychology

State University of NY at Stony Brook

Bachelor of Art in Psychology

APPLICATIONS

- Google for Education
- Microsoft Office Suite
- Collaborative Tools
 - o Zoom
 - o Teams
 - o Meet
- Padlet
- Canva
- Jamboard
- iReady
- Website Development
- Al Tools for Education
- New Visions Portal
- SESIS; OORS; STARS; ATS

RELATED EXPERIENCE

The Emerson School 28Q287	2013 – 2017
Jamaica, NY- Founding Member	
School Psychologist & Counselor	2013 – 2017
Administrative Intern	2015 – 2016
Dean	2014 – 2015

- Promoted and maintained a school culture by initiating various partnerships within the community (i.e., created a mentoring program with a neighboring elementary school)
- Developed school-wide events and advisory program, utilizing Restorative Circles to promote student Social-Emotional Learning while supporting and sustaining school improvement
- Collaborated with teachers to identify strategies to close the achievement gap, focusing on behavioral and classroom management needs
- Created and managed the development and implementation of a schoolwide Multi-Tier Systems of Support plan
- Established a restorative approach by providing training and supervision for a peer mediation program
- Created a schoolwide 'student behavior management flow chart' and developed behavioral supports to improve student behavior and learning outcomes
- Developed and supervised all 8th-grade/senior activities, events, and high school applications
- Conducted in-services and professional development to staff about common student issues, school procedures, team-building, best teaching practices, and special education
- Actively participated as a key member of the Instructional Cabinet, assisting to bridge any gaps between schoolwide instructional priorities and classroom practices, fostering a culture of continuous improvement and innovation in teaching methodologies
- Served as a member of the Administrative Cabinet to assist in creating, maintaining, and supervising school procedures, protocols, operations, and activities

New York City Department of Education (Various Elementary & Middle Schools)

Bronx, NY - School Psychologist

2004 - 2013

- Chaired Educational Planning Committee and Committee of Special Education reviews.
- Chaired Manifestation Determination Reviews and participated in determining whether the student's disability was a direct cause of the act for which the student was suspended
- Chaired Pupil Personnel Team/Academic Intervention Team bi-weekly meetings, which review at-risk students' academic and socio-emotional needs, utilizing a Response to Intervention model
- Directed Flexible Schedule meetings to review special education students who are progressing and determine if particular students are eligible for a less restrictive environment based on overall academic and behavioral performance
- Developed and implemented Functional Behavior Assessments and innovative Behavior Intervention Plans and created a schoolwide 'student behavior management flow chart' and positive behavioral interventions designed to improve student's behavior and learning outcomes
- Participated as a mentor in The NYC Success Mentor Corps, a research-based, data-driven mentoring model that seeks to improve attendance, behavior, and educational outcomes for at-risk students in low-income communities citywide

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

School Psychology Intern | 2003-2004

Hampton Street Elementary School | Mineola, NY

6th Grade Mathematics Teacher | 2001-2003

Maritime Academy for Science & Technology 08X101 | Bronx, NY