

**Ayanna K. Taylor**

1419 Park Ave.

Plainfield, New Jersey 07060

Phone: 908-548-8332 · Mobile: 201-424-7574 · E-mail: ayannataylor@aol.com

**Education:**

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, New Brunswick, New Jersey  
Received Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction Certificate, July 2011

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, New York, New York  
Completed 30 credits towards a Masters in African American Studies

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, Newark, New Jersey  
Received Masters in Public Administration, January 2002  
Honors: Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Received Bachelor of Arts Degree in English Literature, May 1994  
Honors: Women of Color Committee Certificate of Valor, Association of Women Faculty and Administrators Alice Paul Award, Chapter President-Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated

**Experience:**

ACCESS Educational Advisors June 2006 - present  
West Orange, New Jersey  
Founder and President - Founded an LLC that provides curriculum support and development, educational program design, new-school start-up support, professional development, one-on-one instructional coaching, data-driven instruction implementation, and college placement services to schools and individuals.

- Managed a \$260,000+ Gates Foundation funded data-driven instruction project with Dr. Howard Fuller at the Institute for the Transformation of Learning at Marquette University to implement a robust DDI system in two small schools in Milwaukee. Mapped curriculum for K-12 Math, Language Arts, Social Studies/History, and Science aligned to Wisconsin and Common Core Standards. Created new and edited existing interim assessments for year-long interim assessment cycle.
- Manage a staff of 5-8 consultants that develop curriculum and provide on-site support to schools. Design English/Language Arts and History curriculum for K-12. Manage a team of curriculum writers to design and write curriculum for K-12 programs.
- Mentor and coach new teachers for compliance with Alternate Route certification requirements.
- Coach new and veteran teachers in all content areas on using instructional strategies and lesson planning
- Develop charter school proposals, annual reports, renewal applications, and compliance documents.
- Planned and hosted NJ Schools of Choice Career Fair in March 2011 and 2012 bringing together 300+ candidates with hiring managers.
- Partner with the Newark Charter School Fund to provide technical assistance services to increase student achievement in charter schools in Newark, NJ.
- Served as Extension Specialist for Rutgers University Center for Effective School Practices - Charter School Resource Center, facilitating sessions on developing a charter application.
- Provided college placement support for various charter schools including, North Star Academy Charter School of Newark, Bronx Preparatory Charter School, and Noble Street Charter School in Chicago.

TEACHER U/HUNTER COLLEGE  
New York, New York

August 2011 - January 2012

Adjunct Instructor - Led a group of 25 teachers in the "Diversity in American Schools" course. Planned sessions on topics such as race in American schools, writing educational autobiographies, culturally-responsive instruction, differentiated instruction, and multicultural curriculum using centrally designed and individually adapted session plans and materials. Graded and provided written feedback on teacher assignments.

SUNY CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE

2010 - 2011

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Consultant - Sat on review panel for charter applications submitted to the Institute. Conducted inspection visits in 2010 and 2011.

**TEACH FOR AMERICA**

November 2008 - January 2010

Newark, New Jersey

Director of Alumni Affairs - Responsible for implementing the second part of Teach For America's mission to have alumni as a leadership force within education and from every sector to effect fundamental change. Managed a database of over 300 alumni to engage them broadly in Teach For America's initiatives and locally in regional activities. Used weekly data reports to strategically plan weekly and quarterly benchmarks. Coached alumni to help them secure school leadership, teacher leadership, and political leadership positions. Managed two annual giving campaigns for second year corps members and alumni with the goal of an average of 80% giving. The first campaign yielded 90% giving. Increased alumni engagement by 10% in the region, with a particular increase in engagement of alumni of color. Planned and implemented events that engage alumni e.g. Diversity Initiative events, social entrepreneurship seminars, Regional Mini-Summits, Panel Discussions, Career Mentoring, School Leadership Opportunities seminar, workshops, alumni roundtables, and social events. Meet with 30 alumni a month. Engaged in strategic planning to establish 3-year vision, goals, and operational tasks for regional alumni affairs.

**INNOVATIVE DESIGNS FOR EDUCATION**

September 2006 - October 2008

Ramsey, New Jersey

Instructional Strategies Specialist - Plan and facilitate workshops for suburban and urban school districts on instructional strategies, problem-based learning, standardized test prep, technology infusion, professional learning communities, small learning communities, and classroom management strategies. Supported Jersey City School District with developing problem-based learning units, revising curriculum to provide authentic learning experiences, and new teacher orientation. Worked with Lincoln Middle School in Passaic to create small learning communities and professional learning communities. Supported Plainfield Public School district teachers to create and implement problem-based learning units. Mentor new and veteran teachers on integrating problem-based learning into the curriculum and other effective instructional strategies. Create professional development materials and resources for use in workshops and mentoring. Served as a member of the conference planning team and staff.

**NORTH STAR ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL OF NEWARK**

November 2001-July 2006

Newark, New Jersey

Director of College Placement/Alumni Liaison/High School English Teacher - Designed and implemented a comprehensive high school college placement program that includes outreach to colleges, individualized college planning, academic counseling, creation of a career and college resource center, standardized testing coordination, parent outreach, and workshop facilitation. Built ongoing partnerships with national college admissions counselors, enrichment programs, and scholarship programs. Achieved 100% college matriculation for all graduating classes supported. As college liaison, conducted on-site college visits to alumni. Established relationships with college academic advisors in order to track the progress of alumni. Placement duties also included assisting all students in middle and high school with accessing and attending summer enrichment programs. Obtained over \$20,000 in scholarships for summer programs, including study abroad programs each summer. Served as mentor to new English teachers. Served on School Leadership Team. Designed, planned and implemented an 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade English Literature curriculum and Senior Thesis curriculum. Taught 10-12 grade English (2001 - 2004). Students achieved 100% passing rate on the state High School Proficiency Assessment on the first attempt. Co-wrote a successful federal GEAR UP grant to promote early college awareness in our middle school.

**NEW JERSEY CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION**

October 2000-October 2001

Newark, New Jersey

Associate Director- Built membership through outreach. Collected and compiled data for dissemination to charter school community and legislators. Maintained a database of members, funders, and supporters. Facilitated communication among members of the charter school community through listserv management and mailings. Built and maintained the organization's first Web site. Planned and implemented annual events such as the Charter School Job Fair and the CARE Awards Banquet for over 500 guests.

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**GLOBE FEARON EDUCATIONAL PUBLISHER**

June 1998-October 2000

Upper Saddle River, New Jersey

Editor- Implemented and managed projects in company publishing plan, primarily English/Language Arts textbooks, Social Studies textbooks, and skill practice books and adapted novels. Oversaw every aspect of book production from design to bound book. Collaborated with Art and Production departments to create schedules, layouts, and design pages. Created prototype manuscript and wrote content for supplemental resources (e.g. workbooks, teacher editions). Acquired and managed writers for each project. Managed the educator review process for books, which involves identifying reviewers, preparing manuscript for monthly page reviews, ensuring timely payment for services, and incorporating reviewer comments into the book. Managed administrative tasks, invoicing, and budget. Edited textbook manuscript. Lead editor for components of *Basic English* and *Globe Fearon Literature* series, two high-profile and top-selling products. Received editorial promotion after one year on staff.

**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

September 1994-June 1998

Paterson, New Jersey

Classroom teacher- Planned and executed classroom lessons relating to a Language Arts, Health, and Social Studies curriculum for heterogeneously and homogeneously grouped seventh and eighth grade students. Worked with a team of grade level teachers to design and implement thematic units for a Humanities course. Created a Cultural Studies course. Served as Student Government Advisor and Drill Team coach. Co-founded "Homegirls Only" as a rites of passage program for eighth grade young women. Produced a community forum, "Tri-State Ghetto Break", for Paterson youth. Coordinated a City Hall Martin Luther King, Jr. unity rally. Instructed fourth grade students in Writing and Reading for an after school test enrichment program. Participated as co-chairperson of the School Improvement Team.

**Activities/Affiliations/Skills:**

Newark Legacy Charter School Founding Member and Former Member Board of Trustees, Leadership Newark Alumni Class of 2003, Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development, International Society for Technology in Education, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., University of Pennsylvania Secondary Schools Committee, The Black Ivy Alumni League, National Association of College Admissions Counselors, Institute for Entrepreneurial Leadership

**Workshops Presented:**

- "Putting the Pieces Together: Establishing a Comprehensive College Placement Program" - NJ Charter School Association Conference, March 2012
- "Data-Driven Instruction Implementation: A Milwaukee Case Study" - WI Charter Schools Conference, April 2011
- "Building Culture in your Small Learning Community" - Passaic School District
- "Problem-Based Learning" - Jersey City and Plainfield School Districts
- "Designing Small Learning Communities" - Jersey City, Plainfield, and Passaic School Districts
- "Classroom Management" - Bergen Arts & Sciences Charter School
- "Creating a Successful College Placement Program" - Bronx Prep Charter School & Noble Street Charter School
- "Technology in Writing" - Elizabeth School District
- "Differentiated Assessment" - Various Districts
- "Integrating Art and Literacy" - Jersey City School District
- "Professional Learning Communities" - Jersey City and Plainfield School Districts
- "Creating Learning Centers" - Plainfield and Jersey City School Districts
- "Teaching in the Block" - Jersey City School District
- "Using Rubrics to Drive Instruction" - Jersey City School District
- "High School Placement Workshop" - Marion P. Thomas Charter School
- "Designing Transdisciplinary Units" - Plainfield School Districts
- "Infusing Technology into the Curriculum" - Various Districts
- "Preparing for Excellence: Designing and Operating a Quality Charter School"
- "Effective Instructional Practices: Lesson Planning for Student Achievement" - ECO Charter School

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**Lectures:**

Kean University - Guest lecturer for Master's level course on curriculum development

Teacher U/Hunter College - adjunct instructor for "Diversity in American Schools" course

**Certificates:**

NJ Certified K-8

NJ Certified High School English

NJ Certified Curriculum Supervisor