

# DR. AMIRA MOGAJI

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Long academic background coupled with extensive administrative experience that is executed through an Anti-Bias, Anti-Racist (ABAR) lens in Montessori and traditional school settings. As the chair of the American Montessori Society DEI board development work group was instrumental in the selection and development of Anti-Bias, Anti-Racism (ABAR) training. Provides professional development to adults through workshops, presentations and building level training. As the American Montessori Society Board President was instrumental in the development of the Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) standing committee to ensure institutional change. Contributes to the advancement of Montessori education in the public school arena through providing relevant professional development, participating on public school Montessori panels, presenting at Montessori conferences, writing public Montessori focused articles, and serving as the President of the American Montessori Society Board of Directors and a founding member of the Montessori for Social Justice Board of Directors. Doctoral work included authoring a school-based year-long job-embedded ABAR professional development curriculum product.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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### **District Transformation Coach**

**Battle Creek Public Schools-** Battle Creek, MI  
March 2021-Present

- Support school principals to become “results-oriented” leaders
- Build capacity in school leaders to lead with an equity lens and create transformational change
- Support the Battle Creek STEM Innovation Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum Writing
- Support principal in developing effective school-based systems

### **Chief Academic Officer**

**City Garden Montessori School -** St. Louis, MO  
2019 to 2020

- American Montessori Society (AMS) credentialed instructional leader
  - Facilitates and oversees Montessori curriculum development aligned with Missouri academic standards
  - Supervision and evaluation of school principal
  - Ensures the integration of Anti-Bias, Anti-Racist (ABAR) strategies and practices
  - Identifies and secures appropriate professional development
  - Utilize a variety of data points to inform programmatic needs and decisions
  - Develops processes and procedures to support grade level and content area consistency
  - Launched the Montessori Teacher Training Institute
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## **Principal**

**Northglade Montessori Magnet School - Kalamazoo, MI**

2011 to 2019

- Led school through the American Montessori Society (AMS) self-study and school re-accreditation process
  - AMS credentialed instructional leader
  - Facilitated and oversaw the alignment of the Upper Elementary Montessori Math alignment with state and common core standards
  - Supervision and evaluation of instructional and non-instructional staff.
  - Increased student enrollment
  - Oversees school-level budget and Title I budget
  - Created a building level Anti-Bias Anti-Racism Committee
  - Develops and implements both Montessori and Non-Montessori professional development
  - Leads data analysis meetings
  - Provide teacher data analysis/collaboration meeting time
  - Conducts informal and formal classroom observations
  - Oversees all school programming
  - Upholds the American Montessori Society School Accreditation Standards and Criteria
  - Leads the continuous school improvement process
  - Developed and implemented a schoolwide intervention/extension block
  - Aligned Montessori Math lessons to academic standards to support the acquisition of Math fluency
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## **CEO/Head of School**

**Philadelphia Montessori Charter School - Philadelphia, PA**

2010-2011

- Instructional leader
  - Secured a \$850,000 competitive School Improvement Grant
  - Encouraged meaningful parent and community parent participation in events that support students and the goals of the school
  - Led data analysis meetings
  - Supervise and evaluate instructional and non-instructional staff
  - Provide educational programming and student achievement data and monthly Board meetings
  - Facilitates teacher common planning time
  - Conducts formal and informal classroom observations
  - Oversees all school programming
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## **Director of Curriculum and Instruction**

**Philadelphia Montessori Charter School - Philadelphia, PA**

2009-2010

- Philadelphia Montessori Charter School achieved Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for the first time
- Instructional leader
- Led data analysis meetings
- Increased academic achievement
- Provide academic updates at monthly board meetings
- Oversee school programming
- Developed hybrid Montessori schedule
- Implemented 90 minute reading block within a Montessori school setting
- Responsible for the implementation of the PA academic standards aligned Montessori curriculum
- Instrumental in securing the Philadelphia Montessori Charter School charter renewal
- Standardized testing coordination

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## **Principal**

**The Village of Chester Upland** - Chester, PA

2008 to 2009

- Instructional leader
- School scheduling
- Responsible for implementation of district curriculum
- Provide staff development aligned with School Improvement Plan
- Supervise and evaluate instructional and non-instructional staff
- Developed school discipline committee
- Standardized testing coordinator

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## **Principal**

**Village Charter School** - Chester, PA

2006 to 2008

- Village Charter achieved Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for the first time
- Increased academic achievement
- Reduced student referral
- Instructional leader
- Oversee school programming
- Curriculum development and monitor implementation
- Positive school climate development
- Supervise and evaluate instructional and non-instructional staff
- School scheduling
- Standardized testing coordination
- Development of parent and family partnerships in order to support student success

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## **Assistant Principal**

**Village Charter School** - Chester, PA

2005 to 2006

- Work collaboratively with teachers and school principal to develop and implement curriculum
- Instructional leader
- Conduct formal and informal observations
- Standardized testing coordinator
- Supported school discipline

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## **Classroom Teacher**

**School District of Philadelphia** - Philadelphia, PA

1996 to 2003

- 3rd Grade Teacher
- 4th Grade Teacher
- 8th Grade Math/Science Teacher and Student Advisor
- 7th/8th Grade Language Arts Teacher and Student Advisor
- Utilized Pennsylvania Academic Standards in order to develop daily lesson plans and provide high quality effective instruction for a variety of grades and content areas

## EDUCATION

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### **Ed.D in Educational Leadership and Management**

Capella University

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### **Post Master's Certificate in Educational Leadership and Accountability**

Capella University

2017

### **Post Master's Certificate in Educational Leadership and Management**

Capella University

2020

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### **AMS Montessori Administrator's Credential**

Institute for Montessori Innovation-Westminster College - Salt Lake City, UT June

2012 to March 2015

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### **Ed.D (ABD) in Educational Leadership**

Immaculata University - Immaculata, PA January

2006 to 2010

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### **Master of Science in Educational Leadership**

Saint Joseph's University

May 2005

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### **Bachelor of Science-Elementary Education**

Chestnut Hill College

June 1996

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## SKILLS

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- **Anti-Bias, Anti-Racist (ABAR) Education**
  - **Instructional Leadership (10+ years)**
  - **Data Analysis**
  - **Curriculum Development**
  - **Classroom Management**
  - **Teaching**
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## CERTIFICATIONS AND LICENSES

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### **American Montessori Society (AMS) Administrator Credential**

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### **Michigan Central Office Certification**

Present

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### **Michigan K-12 Principal Certification**

Present

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## **Pennsylvania Superintendent Certification-Letter of Eligibility Certification**

Present

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## **Pennsylvania PK-12 Principal Certification**

Present

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## **Pennsylvania Elementary Education Instructional II Certification**

Present

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## **GROUPS**

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### **American Montessori Society (AMS ) Board President**

March 2017 to Present

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### **Montessori for Social Justice (MSJ) Board of Directors (Founding Member)**

June 2017 to August 2019

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## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Leadership:

- Founding board member of Montessori for Social Justice Board of Directors
- President of the American Montessori Society (AMS) Board of Directors
- Chair of the American Montessori Society (AMS) Board Diversity and Inclusion Workgroup
- Participated on the American Montessori Society (AMS) Strategic Vision Group
- American Montessori Society (AMS) Board of Directors Directorship Committee
- American Montessori Society (AMS) Board liaison to the Peace and Social Justice Committee
- American Montessori Society (AMS) Board Justice, Equity, Diversity and Equity (JEDI) Standing Committee
- Eliminating Racism & Creating/Celebrating Equity (ERACCE) Regional Team member
- Served as a Public School Montessori panelist during the American Montessori Society Conference
- Co-facilitated the Montessori for Social Justice Networking session at the American Montessori Society Conference
- Presented at the Association for Illinois Montessori Schools and American Montessori Society Conferences
- Published article in Montessori Public
- Served on American Montessori Society accreditation site visit teams
- Served as a district Culturally Responsive Education (CRE) facilitator
- Keynote presenter for the Colorado Montessori Association conference
- Keynote presenter for the Texas Institute of Montessori Education conferences in Dallas and Houston
- Authored forward for Montessori Inclusion: Strategies and Stories of Support for Learners with Exceptionalities (2020)
- Presented at the AERA 2021 Montessori Special Interest Group (SIG) conference
- Presented on the Montessori Research Panel at the AMI/USA 2021 Virtual Conference