

2023-2024



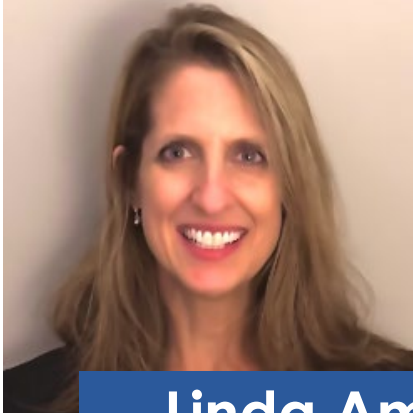
National Policy Advisory Board

Linda Amici
Perla Andrade*
Jamie Avalos
Kristen Rhodes Beland*
Dillon Booker
Tiffany Davis*
Alisa Cooper de Uribe*
Gene Fashaw
Scott Frank
Holly Howard
Jeane Lakin

Frances Lazette*
Jen Loescher*
Adrianna Lynn
Emma Pascarella
Yvette Peña
Al Rabanera*
Juan Renteria, Jr.
Alicia Serafin
Laura Sosik
Arnetta Thompson
Michelle Zurita-Sharpe

*denotes Senior National Policy Advisory Board Member

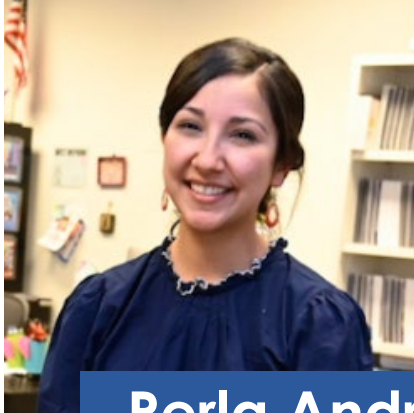




Linda Amici

Westerville, Ohio
Middle School Instructional Coach

Linda Amici is a 2023-2024 Teach Plus National Policy Advisory Board Member and a middle school instructional coach for the Westerville City School District and part-time faculty member for Otterbein University. She has presented and collaborated with PBL Works, the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), National Center for Urban School Transformation, and she serves as an AMLE Schools of Distinction Evaluator. In 2019, Linda was selected as the Sanford Inspirational Award recipient by the National University System for the state of Ohio. She has been recognized as a Great Educational Mentor by her school district, and she was awarded a Martha Holden Jennings Foundation Deeper Learning Grant to awaken learner curiosity within her educational community. Linda graduated from The Ohio State University with a BS in Education and holds an MEd in Curriculum and Instruction.



Perla Andrade

Little Rock, Arkansas
K-5 Instructional Facilitator

Perla Andrade is a 2023-2024 Teach Plus National Policy Advisory Board Member and a K-5 instructional facilitator in Little Rock, Arkansas. Perla supports teachers with curriculum in both literacy and math. She began her teaching career serving students in special education in Texas. She is a Teach Plus Arkansas Senior Policy Fellow and a Teach for America Little Rock Corps alumna. Perla holds a BA in Interdisciplinary Studies with a focus on Special Education from the University of Texas San Antonio. She also holds an MEd in Educational Leadership from Arkansas Tech University and is working on her EdD in K-12 Educational Leadership and Policy at Vanderbilt University.



Jamie Avalos

**Fort Worth, Texas
High School Physics & Science Teacher,
Chair of the Physics & Science Department**

Jamie Avalos is a 2023-2024 Teach Plus National Policy Advisory Board Member who teaches physics, serves as science chair, and is a member of the Superintendent Teacher Advisory Committee. Jamie presents strategies for integrating hands-on learning, technology, and real-world connections at teacher conferences at the state and national levels. She is a Teach Plus Texas Policy Fellowship alumna and has served as a teacher advisor with the Texas Education Agency multiple times, helping to revise state teaching standards and recognitions to be more representative of the needs of students and teachers in Texas. In 2021, Ms. Avalos was selected as the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth Chair for Teaching Excellence in Secondary Science. Jamie holds a BS in Microbiology from Texas A&M University and an MS in Physics from Texas A&M University of Commerce.



Kristen Rhodes Beland

North Kingstown, Rhode Island
3rd Grade Arts & Integration

Kristen Rhodes Beland is a 2023-2024 Senior National Policy Advisory Board Member and a 2019-2020 Teach Plus Rhode Island Policy Fellow. Kristen is a 4th grade teacher at the Suzanne M. Henseler Quidnessett Elementary School in North Kingstown, Rhode Island. Kristen led her school to become trauma-informed and is a strong advocate for SEL. She previously served as an integration specialist implementing the SMART program developed by Brown University and has been involved in the integration of technology into the district, leading professional development in digital citizenship for the N.K. Google Summits. She was lead theatrical director, bringing together groups of 75 students to gain confidence through acting. She has published op-eds on empathy and the importance of trust driving student relationships. She is a 2013 Golden Apple Recipient. Kristen graduated with a BA in Interdisciplinary Arts from Salve Regina University.



Dillon Booker

**North Las Vegas, Nevada
9th Grade ELA, 12th Grade Government**

Dillon Booker (he/him/his) is a 2023-2024 Teach Plus National Policy Advisory Board Member and a 2022-2023 Teach Plus Nevada Policy Fellow. Dillon is a 9th grade resource English Language Arts (ELA) teacher and 12th grade government co-teacher who plans and designs the resource ELA curriculums for all grade levels. Dillon was a 2019 Teach for America corps member, a member of TFA LVV's Social Innovation and School to Prison Pipeline cohorts, and a TFA Ambassador. He teaches in the same city he grew up in. Prior to becoming a teacher, he was a campaign organizer and issue advocacy community organizer who organized for two winning congressional campaigns. Dillon holds an MEd in Special Education and a BA in Political Science from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.



Tiffany Davis

**Greenville, Mississippi
Kindergarten Lead Teacher**

Tiffany Davis is a 2023 Teach Plus Senior National Policy Advisory Board Member and a kindergarten teacher at Webb Kindergarten Preparatory School in Greenville, Mississippi. An educator for over 20 years, she has served her hometown district as a classroom teacher, lead teacher, mentor, administrator and advisor. She has been named Teacher of the Year at her campus in 2003 and 2019. While achieving National Board Certification in the area of Early Childhood Generalist (2005), Tiffany also served as an adjunct instructor in the College of Education for Mississippi Valley State University. Tiffany is an alumna of the Teach Plus Mississippi Policy Fellowship and the NEA Teacher Leadership Institute Teacher Fellowship. She earned her BS degree in Elementary Education from Mississippi Valley State (1996), an MEd in Elementary Education, an MEd in Educational Leadership, as well as an EdS in Elementary Education from Delta State University. Tiffany is currently enrolled in the EdD program at Delta State University.



Alisa Cooper de Uribe

Albuquerque, New Mexico
1st Grade Spanish Immersion

Alisa Cooper de Uribe is a 2023-2024 Senior National Policy Advisory Board Member and a 2021-2022 Teach Plus New Mexico Policy Fellow. She is a Spanish immersion first grade teacher, fostering international-mindedness in learners while weaving core content into transdisciplinary units of study at New Mexico International School in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She is a member of her school community's Pedagogical Leadership Team and Equity Council and has served on the School Advisory Committee and as World Poetry Day Coordinator. She was named 2021 New Mexico Teacher of the Year. Alisa earned her BA in English from Abilene Christian University and her MA in Spanish from Middlebury College. She completed her Alternative Licensure Program with a focus on Bilingual Education at Eastern New Mexico University, Portales.



Gene Fashaw

Aurora, Colorado
8th Grade Math

Gene Fashaw (he/him) is a 2023-2024 Teach Plus National Policy Advisory Board Member and an 8th grade math teacher at High Point Academy in Aurora, Colorado. Gene is an alumnus of the Teach Plus Colorado Policy Fellowship and the Teach Plus National Change Agent Fellowship. He serves as the head basketball coach for his campus and believes in developing the whole child while maintaining high expectations. Gene was recognized as a 2023 African American Who Makes a Difference by the Denver Urban Spectrum and is an alumnus of the Moonshot edVentures program and the TFA Launch Fellowship Program. Gene earned his BA in business administration from Morehouse College and holds a MAT from Relay Graduate School of Education.



Scott Frank

Brownsville, Texas
IB History of the Americas, AP Psychology

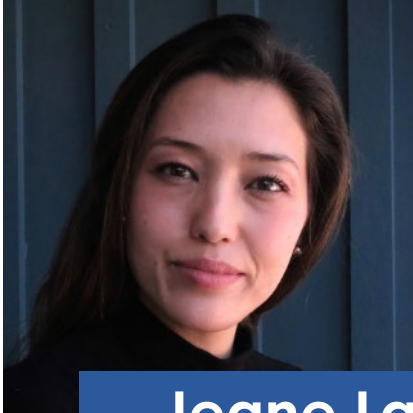
Scott Frank (he/him) is a 2023-2024 Teach Plus National Policy Advisory Board Member and is a Distinguished Master Teacher at IDEA Frontier College Prep in Brownsville, Texas where he teaches International Baccalaureate History of the Americas and Advanced Placement Psychology. Scott is a Teach Plus Senior Policy Fellowship alumnus who led work on High-Quality Instructional Materials (HQMI) and Assessment and Accountability. Scott is an experienced teacher and has taught in Germany and Kosovo. He earned degrees in History and Secondary Education from Loras College.



Holly Howard

Bentonville, Arkansas
11th Grade ELA

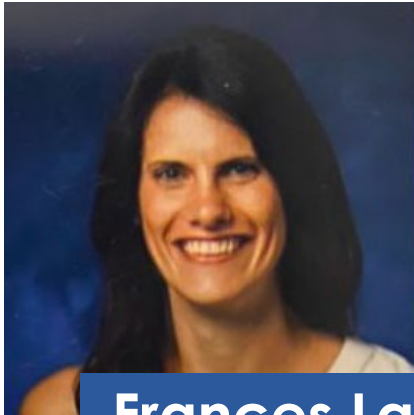
Holly Howard (she/her) is a 2023-2024 Teach Plus National Policy Advisory Board Member and an 11th grade English Language Arts teacher at Bentonville High School in Bentonville, Arkansas. Holly is a Teach Plus Arkansas Senior Policy Fellowship alumna who focused her efforts on increasing teacher pay as the leader of the recruitment and retention working group. She is a National Board Certified teacher, holds a master teacher designation in her state, and mentors teacher candidates from the University of Arkansas. She has also served on the University of Central Arkansas' College of Education Executive Advisory Board, as a panelist for NAEP's achievement level descriptor team for 12th grade literacy, and as a teacher leader with Winthrop Rockefeller's Educational Policy Institute. Most recently, she was awarded Bentonville High School's 2023 Teacher of the Year. Holly holds a BA in English and an MEd in Curriculum and Instruction from Arkansas State University.



Jeane Lakin

**Carbondale, Colorado
K-4 STEM**

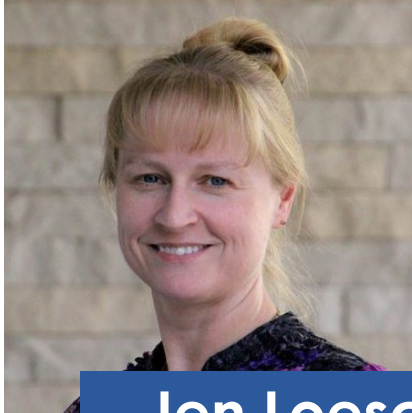
Jeane Lakin (she/hers) is a 2023-2024 Teach Plus National Policy Advisory Board Member and a 2022-2023 Teach Plus Colorado Policy Fellow. She is an elementary educator in Carbondale, Colorado who teaches third grade. Jeane serves on her District Accountability Committee, district elementary science team, and supports teachers in their use of technology in the classroom. At her previous school in Dubai, UAE she also served on the K-12 science committee and delivered edTech PD. Jeane earned her BA in Business Administration from the University of Puget Sound and an MEd in Elementary Education from The College of New Jersey.



Frances Lazette

**Ann Arbor, Michigan
Middle School French Individuals & Society**

Frances Lazette is a 2023-2024 Teach Plus National Policy Advisory Board Member and 2022-2023 Michigan Collaborative Senior Teacher Leader alumna. She is a French and Individuals & Societies teacher at Scarlett Middle School in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Frances is the Peer to Peer facilitator at her school, a program that supports student mental health. She is a district French TLN Coordinator and an MEA Distance Learning Expert. Frances is the president of the Michigan World Language Association and has been a featured presenter at state and regional language conferences. She is committed to whole child education and helping students figure out their purpose in school. She earned her BA in Political Science and French & Francophone Studies from the University of Michigan and an MEd in Urban and Diversity Education from Eastern Michigan University.



Jen Loescher

**North Las Vegas Nevada
Regional Match Coach & Trainer,
2nd & 6th Grades**

Jen Loescher is a 2023-2024 Senior National Policy Advisory Board Member and a 2022-2023 Teach Plus Nevada Senior Policy Fellow who has worked within the Clark County School District for 23 years. In 2018, she joined the Southern Nevada Regional Professional Development Program team as a Regional Math Coach & Trainer. She previously worked at Sedway Middle School as a Strategist/Coach and Data Coordinator and has taught 6th grade math and 2nd grade. She is an alumna of the Public Education Foundation's Teacher Leadership Academy and Understood x Blue Engine Fellowship and was on the 2022 Digital Promise Learner Variability Navigator Practitioner Advisory Board. Jen is a Community Manager with Digital Promise's Coach PLC, is a 200-hour Certified Yoga Teacher (CYT 200), and has earned a Social-Emotional Learning Facilitator certificate from Breathe for Change. Jen earned a BS in Elementary Education and an MS in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Nevada Las Vegas.



Adrianna Lynn

Grand Rapids, Michigan
11th & 12th Grade CTE
Teacher Academy Instructor

Adrianna Lynn is a 2023-2024 Teach Plus National Policy Advisory Board Member and a Teacher Academy Instructor at Kent Career Technical Center. In this Grow-Your-Own program, she helps prepare 11th and 12th grade students for successful careers in education. In eight years in education, she has held roles as a department lead, instructional coach, reading interventionist, and teacher mentor within Secondary ELA. Adrianna received the Segal Americorps Scholarship in 2020. She earned her BS in Sociology and Spanish from Central Michigan University, her MEd in Secondary Education: ELA and Special Education K-12 from The Johns Hopkins University School of Education, and is working on her Educational Specialist degree at Grand Valley State University.



Emma Pascarella

**Holyoke, Massachusetts
1st Grade**

Emma Pascarella is a 2023-2024 Teach Plus National Policy Advisory Board Member and is a 2022-2023 Teach Plus Massachusetts Policy Fellow. She is a first-grade teacher in her home city of Holyoke and has been an early childhood educator since 2005 and has pursued teacher leadership roles since 2014, most recently serving as an Instructional Leader and as Advisory Council member to the superintendent. Emma strives to create classroom communities that are responsive to the cultural, emotional and intellectual needs of her students and their families, and grounds her work in equity and social justice. In addition to her work with students, Emma strives to be an advocate for teachers, and aims to help advance policy that will support teachers to do the important work of educating our youth. She received her BA in Italian Studies from Smith College and an MEd in Early Childhood Education from Bank Street College of Education.



Yvette Peña

San Antonio, Texas

**Professional Development School Coordinator for NEISD &
Trinity University's Master of Arts in Teaching Program**

Yvette Peña is a 2023-2024 Teach Plus National Policy Advisory Board Member who teaches English and social studies electives at the International School of the Americas in San Antonio, Texas. Yvette proudly sponsors the Diversity Club and is a co-founder of the Equity Committee at her school. Yvette previously received the Humanities Texas Award for Outstanding Early-Career Teaching and was named Teacher of the Year on her campus. This will be her fifth year teaching after graduating with a BA in Psychology and a MAT from Trinity University.



Al Rabanera

**Fullerton, California
High School Math**

Al Rabanera is a 2023-2024 Senior National Policy Advisory Board Member and a 2019-2020 Teach Plus California Policy Fellow. He is a high school math teacher at La Vista High School in Fullerton, California. Al assists in the development and implementation of new programs that promote the retention of current teachers and encourage new generations of students to pursue careers in teaching. As a result of his efforts, in 2017 Al was one of five educators to receive the Horace Mann Award for Teaching Excellence and selected to participate as a Global Learning Fellow. In 2018, Al was selected as a recipient of the Distinguished Alumni of the Year for the College of Education at California State University Fullerton. Al earned his BA from the University of California Irvine, an MS from California State University Fullerton, and an EdD from University of Southern California.



Juan Renteria, Jr.

Norman, Oklahoma
5th Grade, Adjunct Professor at
University of Oklahoma

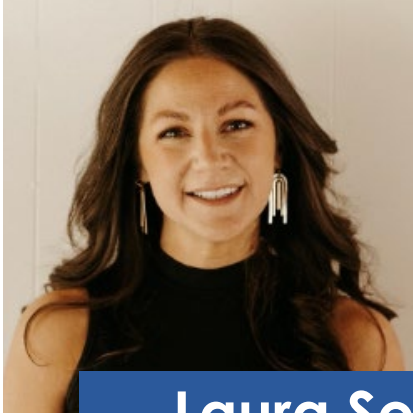
Juan Renteria, Jr. is a 2023-2024 Teach Plus National Policy Advisory Board Member and an educator based in Norman, Oklahoma. Juan teaches fifth grade at Truman Elementary and is an adjunct instructor at the University of Oklahoma. His professional and community involvement includes Norman Public Schools' Diversity and Equity Council and Recruitment Cadre, Norman Public Schools' Leadership Academy, University of Oklahoma Alumni Ambassador, and more. Juan has been recognized as Norman Public Schools inaugural Rookie Teacher of the Year, Norman Public Schools 2021 District Teacher of the Year, Oklahoma NextGen Under 30 Honoree, and a finalist for 2022 Oklahoma Teacher of the Year. He is a first-generation college graduate and the proud son of hard-working immigrants. Juan is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma where he received his BS in Elementary Education and his MEd in Educational Administration, Curriculum, and Supervision.



Alicia Serafin

**Wilmington, Massachusetts
Elementary ESL**

Alicia Serafin is a 2023-2024 Teach Plus National Policy Advisory Board Member who teaches English as a Second Language in the Wilmington Public Elementary Schools in Massachusetts. She is a Teach Plus Massachusetts Policy Fellowship alumna and a Teach Plus National Senior Research Fellowship alumna. She previously taught Sheltered English Immersion and English as a Second Language. Alicia is a Department of Elementary and Secondary Education-approved Professional Development Provider providing 15 PDPs in ESL and other courses and Core Collaborative Professional Development Provider in the 5 District Partnership. Alicia graduated from Cornell University with a BA in French and received her MBA from UCLA Anderson School of Management and Masters of Arts in Teaching English as a Second Language from Salem State University.



Laura Sosik

**Scranton, Pennsylvania
2nd Grade**

Laura Sosik is a 2023-2024 Teach Plus National Policy Advisory Board Member and a Teach Plus Pennsylvania Senior Policy Fellowship alumna. Laura teaches 2nd grade at Isaac Tripp Elementary School in Scranton, PA, where she sits on her district's Equity Committee and Diversity Committee. Laura has served as Coach of her school's School-Wide Positive Behavior Program, including acting as district ambassador of the initiative. Laura has supported and advocated for her students and school community for 16 years. Laura graduated from East Stroudsburg University with a BS in Elementary Education and is currently pursuing her Master's Degree.



Arnetta Thompson

Oak Park, Illinois
K-5 Enrichment Specialist

Arnetta Thompson (she/her) is a 2023-2024 Teach Plus National Policy Advisory Board Member and an Enrichment Specialist in Oak Park Elementary School District 97 in Oak Park, Illinois. She is a Teach Plus Illinois Senior Policy Fellowship alumna and a member of the National Teach Plus TOC Alumni Network and the National Teach Plus Teacher Cabinet. Arnetta is a National Board Certified Teacher in the area of Middle Childhood Generalist. She serves as the Vice-Chair of her region and as a Virtual Instructional Coach (VIC) to new teachers around the state for the Illinois Education Association (IEA-NEA) and facilitates a Leaders for Just Schools cohort. She has a BA in Elementary Education and American Studies from Lake Forest College, an MA in Curriculum and Instruction from Olivet Nazarene University, and an MA in Supervision & Leadership with a Type 75 endorsement from Concordia University.



Michelle Zurita-Sharpe

Chicago, Illinois
Pre-K Special Education

Michelle Zurita-Sharpe is a 2023-2024 Teach Plus National Policy Advisory Board Member and a pre-kindergarten special education teacher in a blended classroom at Blair Early Childhood Center. She is a Teach Plus Illinois Early Childhood Educator Senior Policy Fellowship alumna and a 2022-23 IAFC Maria Whelan Leadership Institute Early Childhood Emerging Leader Fellow. She is the Chicago Southland Chapter Chair, Region 2 Delegate, and Regional Delegate Vice President for the Illinois Association for the Education of Young Children (ILAEYC), a Birth to Five Illinois Action Council Member for Region 1-B-C, and more. Michelle is passionate about educational equity and works to elevate educator voice in decision-making spaces. She received her BS in Early Childhood Special Education with a minor in Education Policy Studies and an ESL endorsement from Loyola University at Chicago.