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AWSA Names Yaribel Rodriguez Director of Urban Education

MADISON — The Association of Wisconsin School Administrators has named Yaribel Rodriguez as its Director of Urban Education. Rodriguez is a committed champion of social justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion, with more than a decade of experience in urban education and leadership.

In her new role at AWSA, Rodriguez will join current staff members Joe Schroeder and Tammy Gibbons in facilitating professional learning and support for the organization's members statewide. Rodriguez states, "I am excited to join the dedicated team at AWSA. I look forward to expanding AWSA's reach and impact across the state by supporting school leaders' effectiveness to improve educational outcomes for all students and eradicate persistent opportunity gaps within our schools."

"We are thrilled to welcome Yaribel Rodriguez to the AWSA team, as we could not have found a better leader to expand our support for leaders of excellence and equity," said Jim Lynch, Executive Director of AWSA. "Yaribel has proven herself to be a culturally competent leader who has successfully engaged diverse groups of stakeholders as she has worked to positively transform entire school communities. Her successful leadership, commitment to equity, and adult learning skill set will be a great asset to AWSA."

Prior to joining AWSA, Rodriguez served as Director of Teacher Talent at [City Forward Collective](#), a Milwaukee nonprofit organization focused on eliminating educational inequity and ensuring all children have access to great schools. There, she worked to increase teacher diversity by aiding district, charter and voucher schools through the creation of teacher pipelines, talent management training and support for school leaders, and encouraging educator diversity policy advocacy.

Rodriguez also previously served as a principal at Lincoln Avenue School and assistant principal at Allen Field Elementary School, both in the Milwaukee Public Schools. Before that, she was a bilingual teacher and literacy coach at La Causa Charter School in Milwaukee.

Rodriguez holds a master's degree in Educational Leadership and Administration from Cardinal Stritch University. She received a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and Teaching from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She will officially begin her role as AWSA's Director of Urban Education July 1.

AWSA is a professional organization made up of more than 2,200 associate principals, principals, aspiring administrators, and academically-oriented district administrators across the state of Wisconsin. To learn more, visit <https://www.awsa.org>.

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