



Marcus J. Pina, M.Ed

Principal Riverside Traditional School

Born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona - South Phoenix, Mr. Pina attended elementary school in the Roosevelt School District then attended South Mountain High School during the time they were called the "Rebels." After graduation he enlisted in the United States Navy where he retired after 20 years of active duty service as a Senior Chief Legalman (Surface Warfare Specialist). During his service, he performed various duties ranging from boiler technician in a ship's engine room, court reporter, shipboard Fire Marshal and Damage Control Leader, and Law Office Manager. He focused on the academic training of junior enlisted members and junior officers in the area of professional duties, rights and responsibilities, and leadership. After retirement, Mr. Pina received his Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education with emphasis in History from Arizona State University. He began his teaching career at South Mountain High School as an Honor's History Teacher and continued his career as a middle school teacher at Southwest Elementary in the Roosevelt School District. He completed his Masters Degree in Educational Administration and Leadership from Northern Arizona University where he received his Principalship certificate from the state of Arizona. Mr. Pina is currently working on his Doctoral Degree at Grand Canyon University and centering his dissertation on development and implementation of a Sustainable Parental Academic Model and School Leadership. Mr. Pina's professional interests include the development of a community of practice that includes professional learning communities composed of school, parents and community leaders for the academic growth of students.

Mr. Pina has served as a school administrator in two Arizona School Districts, including Roosevelt School District and Riverside School District. He has been a high school and middle school teacher, football coach, behavior specialist, and assistant principal. Mr. Pina is a father of three boys and one girl and grandfather of two boys and two girls. His older two sons still reside in Phoenix with their families and his third son is currently on active duty with the United States Air Force. His daughter is currently attending Ball State University where she is majoring in elementary education with emphasis in early childhood and a minor in foreign languages