

Dr. Jaime A. Rivera was born in Sonora, Mexico and raised in Central Coast California to first-generation immigrant parents. Spanish is his primary language and he has over the years, developed an identity that is both Mexican and American in heritage. He is one of eleven children and still considers himself sane. Dr. Rivera attended Paso Robles High School “*The Home of the Bearcats*”. After high school graduation he moved to Flagstaff, Arizona where he attended Northern Arizona University (NAU) and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Education and School Law. Dr. Rivera moved to Yuma, Arizona in 1989 and began teaching Social Sciences in the Yuma Union High School District at Cibola High School.

Dr. Rivera completed his Master’s Degree in Educational Law and his Doctorate in Educational Administration and Leadership at NAU. His dissertation encompassed a research study of migrant worker parents and educational achievement and began his focus in training school administrators to promote student academic success. Dr. Rivera’s professional interests include developing educational programs for students who are at-risk of not meeting their full potential, mentoring aspiring principals and teachers, and providing learning opportunities to diverse student populations.

Dr. Rivera has successfully served as an administrator in four Arizona school districts, including the Yuma Union High School District, the Chandler Unified School District, the Roosevelt School District, and the Riverside School District. Within these districts he has been a secondary school teacher, a baseball and wrestling coach, an athletic director, a dean of students, a vice-principal, a principal, a Title I assistant director, a director of staff training and development, and a superintendent of education. He has also served as an associate professor for the College of Education at Northern Arizona University. His specialized area of expertise is in the development and implementation of ESL/ELD and school administration programs. He has been a trainer, mentor, and national lecturer for school principal development. His extensive experience in school administration, school law and ESL/ELD programs has allowed him a well-rounded perspective and an in-depth understanding of the K-20 educational system.

Dr. Rivera resides in Goodyear, Arizona, with his wife, son, daughter, and two dogs.

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Private Education in a Public School Setting