

## Tabitha Madera, Chief Academic Officer Educational Leadership Philosophy

Influential school leaders should build relationships with all community members while fostering positive school culture, shared responsibility, and empowerment.

One of my core values is making personal connections with people while getting to know the unique talents of my colleagues and members of the community. We can learn something from everyone, regardless of educational experience or socio-economic background. While building relationships, we see our shared purpose, which can collectively contribute to the school community. Shared responsibility is vital to student success, and I believe such responsibility can be cultivated by implementing a strategic planning process that encourages participation from the school's stakeholders. The educational leader's task is to solicit information and data from all community members and provide opportunities for collaborative decision-making.

In my 23-year tenure, I have yet to encounter an educator, student, or parent who does not want to achieve success. An educational leader's role is to empower staff and students with the necessary tools and encouragement to adapt to challenges and reach success. Educational leaders act as role models for the school community and set the tone for school culture. They have the utmost responsibility to influence the attitudes, values, and behaviors of those around them. Creating a positive school culture can be accomplished through investing in people, having open lines of communication, and celebrating achievement. Education leaders have an excellent opportunity to improve their community as they steer the direction of the school toward a shared vision.

I'd like to welcome you to Golden Door Charter School!