

BREANNE BUSHU

CONTACT

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 www.linkedin.com/in/breannebushu/

SUMMARY

- Experienced education and public policy researcher, writer, and project manager
 - Deep knowledge of the education system, from early childhood through K-12 and higher education
 - Proven problem solver, strategic planner, and systems builder to help organizations do more
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Educational Leadership & Policy, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ, 2024

Dissertation: Education Coalition Narrative Strategy in Arizona Legislative Testimony: A Narrative Policy Framework Study

Awards: Dolores R. Kaith Scholarship Endowment Scholarship, Educational Leadership and Policy Department Tuition Award, Everett L. Holden and Marian G. Holden Memorial Scholarship, Dr. Jane Gillespie Memorial Scholarship, Ora Bretall Scholarship, Phi Delta Kappa Memorial Scholarship

M.Ed., Educational Leadership, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ, 2011

B.F.A. with Honors, Studio Art in 3-D Design, Mathematics Minor, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ, 2006

Award: Flinn Scholarship

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Instructor, *Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University*, Tempe, AZ, 08/2025- Present
Co-teaching TEL 712, Mixed Methods Action Research, to doctoral students in educational leadership. Helping students through pre-dissertation rounds of mixed methods action research.

Education & Public Policy Consultant, Phoenix, AZ, 04/2021- Present

Advised the Arizona Department of Education on spending over \$180 million in funding allocations as part of ARP ESSER. Facilitated 100-member statewide education taskforce. Investigated and drafted report on national promising practices on state education spending.

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Director, Policy & Communications, *Achieve60AZ*, Phoenix, AZ, 07/2018-01/2021

Led statewide efforts to increase the number of Arizonans with certificates and degrees. Produced research, policy, and communications strategy to support Latino, Native American, and Black attainment, as well as adult learners. Primary author on all technical reports and publications, including issue briefs and blogs, with a reach of over 2000 state and national leaders. Designed and managed research projects, including consultants. Invited speaker at statewide education and workforce events. Recruited, trained, supervised, and mentored intern team.

Education Research Assistant, *Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University*, Tempe, AZ, 01/2018-07/2018

Developed coding protocols, and coded and analyzed text-based communications and survey data, supporting federally-funded high school-to-college transition study. Conducted student assessments and collected and coded teacher instruction data for a multi-year federally-funded preschool pre-literacy study, ensuring document organization, data integrity, and coding reliability.

Instructor, *College of Education, University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ, 08/2017-12/2017

Taught undergraduate, online sections of EDL 322: Organizational Leadership. Revised curriculum and developed protocols to meet the needs of student learners in an asynchronous classroom while still creating a sense of shared community.

Development Manager & Policy Advisor, *Center for the Future of Arizona*, Phoenix, AZ, 01/2016-01/2017

Developed and implemented policy agenda. Briefed leadership on state and national education and civic health policy legislation, among others. Managed \$3 million capital campaign to support acquisition of resources, from initial identification of potential funding, writing and reviewing grant applications, coordinating reporting, to tracking progress to goal. Orchestrated overhaul of existing development practices by instituting organization-wide customer relations management system and standardized processes.

Project Development & Operations Coordinator, *Center for the Future of Arizona*, Phoenix, AZ, 07/2012-01/2016

Synthesized K-12, higher education, government, and business stakeholder groups needs to create mastery-based education programming in district, charter, and private schools across the state. Managed education team operations, including coordinating grant applications, writing and editing reports for over \$1 million in grant funding, and analyzing student data for program evaluation. Assisted with preparation of presentations and technical publications.

Fiscal Analyst, *Joint Legislative Budget Committee, Arizona State Legislature*, Phoenix, AZ, 07/2011-07/2012

Researched and reported on the fiscal impact of legislation for legislators and staff. Analyzed state budget requests and made recommendations on proposed spending levels. Drafted and monitored state budget legislation and relevant fiscal bills.

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Teacher, Middle School Mathematics, Marana Unified School District, Marana, AZ, 07/2008-06/2011
Evaluated student data and teaching practices to spearhead the development of department-wide mathematics curriculum. Advised Superintendent and led district-level research group investigating national best practices in district-wide curriculum change. Selected as one of twenty Arizona middle-grade STEM teachers to attend the inaugural Arizona Center for STEM Teachers Summer Institute.

Teacher, Middle School Mathematics, St. Louis Public Schools, St. Louis, MO, 07/2006-06/2008
Corps Member, Teach for America, St. Louis, MO, 07/2006-06/2008
Assisted Principal in assessing school-wide student data to rewrite School Improvement Goals and to evaluate budgetary priorities. Initiated a school-wide system for compiling, managing, and analyzing student achievement data. Selected as one of 3,300 corps members from among 19,000 applicants to expand educational opportunities for all students.

SELECTED HONORS

Fellow, Flinn-Brown Civic Leadership Academy, 2016

The Flinn-Brown Civic Leadership Academy is sponsored by the Flinn Foundation and the Thomas R. Brown Foundations to help expand the cadre of Arizonans in state policy leadership positions with the knowledge, skills, and commitment to address critical long-term issues.

Policy Leadership Academy, Leadership for Educational Equity, 2015

PLA is an invitation-only, multi-day policy leadership workshop that brings together a select and diverse group of high-level policy leaders, advocates, organizers, and elected officials in the national LEE network to build the movement toward educational equity.

CURRENT CERTIFICATION

Arizona Standard Professional Principal, PreK-12

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Bushu, B. (April 2025). *Comparing Coalitions' Narrative Strategy Around Anti-Critical Race Theory State Legislation: A Narrative Policy Framework Study* [Roundtable presentation]. American Educational Research Association, Denver, Colorado..

Bushu, B. & Szolowicz, M. (May 2015). *Standards, Standardized Assessments, and Student Achievement: A Critical Policy Analysis*. Arizona Professors of Educational Administration Conference, Phoenix, Arizona.

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SELECTED INVITED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Bushu, B. (Jan 2025). *Policy Careers*. Panelist at Leadership for Education Equity convening, Phoenix, Arizona.

Bushu, B. (Sept 2020). *Education and Its Impact on Southern Arizona*. Webinar Panelist for Tucson Hispanic Chamber's Hispanic Market Outlook Virtual Business Expo, Tucson, Arizona.

Yanof, R. & Bushu, B. (Feb 2020). *Developing a Communications Strategy for Arizona's Postsecondary Attainment Goal*. Presenter at Arizona Center for Civic Leadership's Arizona Civic Exchange (CivEx). Flinn Foundation, Phoenix, Arizona.

Yanof, R. & Bushu, B. (Oct 2018). *Arizona's Educational Attainment*. Presenter at Arizona Center for Civic Leadership's Arizona Civic Exchange (CivEx). Flinn Foundation, Phoenix, Arizona.

SELECTED TECHNICAL REPORTS (PRIMARY AUTHOR)

Achieve60AZ. (2020). State of Attainment 2020. <https://tinyurl.com/Achieve60AZ2020>

Achieve60AZ. (2019). State of Attainment 2019.

LOCAL OUTREACH & BOARD SERVICE

Past Chair, *Flinn Scholar Alumni Council, Flinn Foundation*, 2019 to Present

Member, *multiple Madison School District Elementary Site-Based Councils*, 2024 to Present

Member, AASA and AzSCI Community Item Review Committee (formerly AzMERIT Parent/Community Sensitivity Review Committee), *Arizona Department of Education*, 2015 to 2024

Selection Committee Member for Flinn Scholarship and Flinn-Brown Fellowship, *Flinn Foundation*, 2009 to 2024

Volunteer, Covid School Resource Team, *Maricopa County Medical Reserve Corps*, 2021 to 2022

School Team Mentor, *MAKERS of Change Assistive Technology Challenge*, 2021

Member, Youth Committee, *Maricopa County Workforce Development Board*, 2020 to 2021

Selection Committee Member, *Teach For America*, 2007 to 2015

BREANNE BUSHU

GPSC Travel Grant Reviewer, *Graduation and Professional Student Council, University of Arizona*, 2017 to 2018

Graduate Student Proposal Reviewer, *American Educational Research Association*, 2017

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Educational Research Association

Leadership for Educational Equity
