



Janene Onyango Consultant, Professional Learning

Janene Onyango's commitment to educating, inspiring and uplifting students has spanned over twenty years. She has taught reading and writing in the elementary grades and has provided professional development and coaching for educators. Her past recognitions have included: 2016 Teacher of the Year, (Willingboro Public Schools), 2015 Mulrone Scholar (University of Pennsylvania), and a 2015 recipient of an *NJEA Frederick L. Hipp Foundation for Excellence in Education* grant for her environmental science program, Project WILD. In 2018, She was the recipient of the Judith Owens Spirit Award, presented to her in recognition of her work as an activist, and union organizer with the NJEA (New Jersey Education Association) where Ms. Onyango served as Vice-President -External of her local, the Willingboro Education Association.



A writer and an author, Onyango has been published and featured in educational journals, such as *The Journal of School and Society*, a publication of the John Dewey Society and *The Review*, a publication of the New Jersey Education Association, *neaToday*, a publication of the National Education Association. As a graduate student in the Reading, Writing, and Literacy Program at the University of Pennsylvania, her research interests include critical studies, educational equity, intergenerational reading practices, digital storytelling, technology in education, and social justice. Prior to studying at UPENN, Onyango earned a Master of Education degree in Early Childhood and Elementary Education from the College of New Rochelle, NY.

Additionally, Janene is an enthusiastic volunteer and has continuously participated in many charitable efforts. Kairos Prison Ministry International, The National Writing Project, The Philadelphia Writing Project, and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc, of which she has been an active member for over 30 years, are some of the organizations she has served in a volunteer capacity.

