Delia Duran Clark is a Black-Latinx, mother to four amazing girls: Sasha, Mara, Elena, and Sofía. Being a mother is where her leadership, thirst for learning, and educational pedagogy began. She was born in the Dominican Republic and has lived in the United States since the age of 12. Her parents migrated to this country in the late 1970s and she and her three siblings arrived in the early 1980s.

At the age of 16, she graduated from Lawrence High School and then on to Northern Essex Community College where she received her first college degree in Early Childhood Education. Her love of learning then led her to Lesley University to complete a Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education & Psychology. She later received a Master’s in Social Work from Boston College, and a second masters from Worcester State College in School Leadership Administration.

She has held leadership positions at different educational institutions in Lawrence, Ma including: Lawrence Family Development Charter School, Lawrence High School, and Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School. For the last four years, she has had the pleasure of working with students at the college level holding positions at Merrimack College, Boston College, and Northern Essex Community College. Through these roles, she has gained critical experience and grown as an educator & community leader. Most recently she held the position of Executive Director at Mill Cities Leadership Institute, where her work focused on developing socially responsible leaders throughout the Merrimack Valley. Delia has an impressive track record of systemic change through education and as she says “personally, one of my biggest leadership accomplishments is being the founder of Nosotras: Una Fuerza Natural and Amigas, two women’s empowerment groups that honor women’s voices and experiences. We celebrate life through stories, experiences, workshops, art, poetry, music…us.”

After graduate school, she returned to the Dominican Republic. While there she received a Postgraduate degree in School Leadership and Administration from the Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo. The range and depth of her education became a critical anchor of her self identity. Her experience in Dominican Republic also served to widen her professional path as an Elementary Principal of an American school, Colegio Dominico-Americano.

As she states, “ironically, I had to leave the USA to understand that Lawrence, MA was home.” She has lived here for most of her life and considers herself part of the fabric that makes up our amazing city. “My years in DR helped to broaden my understanding and sensitivity to my own
cultural beliefs, values, and blackness. The Dominican Republic holds my roots, cultural values, childhood memories, ethnic identity, strong family ties, however, my branches have blossomed in the city of Lawrence. I have made Lawrence, MA my emotional home. My heart beats for this city. I finally understood that my relationships define my life. Thank you for the opportunity granted to me to serve Esperanza Academy and the Lawrence community as your school principal. I am truly honored to be part of this vibrant institution.”

We are thrilled to welcome Delia to the Esperanza family.

Sincerely,

Jadihel Taveras
Head of School