# Benjamin Du Higgins

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## EXPERIENCE

### Uplift Luna Preparatory High School, Dallas, TX
*Dean*
July 2019 - Present

- Manages Science, Math, Spanish, and International Baccalaureate (IB) core departments, totaling 20 teachers
- Routinely uses Microsoft Excel to track progress, identify critical trends, and communicate data to students and teachers
- Uses Tableau dashboards to monitor failure, attendance, and performance management data
- Created exemplar substitute management system using Excel spreadsheets; model is utilized by a majority of schools in district
- Raised Class of 2024 ACT scores 2 points on average during 3 week ACT bootcamp
- Increased IB Diplomas from 2 to 17 in the first 2 years (largest growth in network; 3rd most in district)
- Coached and lead network in Algebra 1 end of course passage rate during the 2020-2021 school year
- Manages Section 504 program by arranging and facilitating all meetings

### Teach for America, Richmond, CA
*Learning Facilitator*
February 2019 - July 2019

- Created a robust curriculum to prepare preservice teachers to enter the classroom
- Mentored preservice teachers on creating an inclusive, relevant, and equitable curriculum and culture for their future classrooms
- Led content sessions on best practices in a variety of key instructional areas
- Provided feedback on lesson plans
- 1 of 2 curriculum experts focusing on content and culture at 60 teacher summer school site

## PROFILE

High School Assistant Principal and expert in data-driven and evidence-based learning

Technologically savvy, quick learner, and critical reflector

2020-2021 Employee of the Year Runner-up

## SKILLS

Microsoft Excel (Proficient)
Python (Beginner)
Data-driven Instruction
Culturally Responsive Educator
College Preparation Expert (IB, AP, SAT, ACT)
Effective Communicator
Analytical Problem Solver

## LANGUAGES

Chinese (Conversational)

Spanish (Intermediate)

## Evergreen Valley High School, San Jose, CA
*Physics Teacher and Science Department Chair*

August 2014 - July 2019
- 2017-2018 Teacher of the Year Runner-up
- 84% pass rate for AP Physics 1 versus a nationwide average of 40% (25% scored a 5 versus the nationwide average of 5%)
- Received a 90% overall satisfaction from student survey data throughout 3 years of teaching (2014-2018)
- Voted member of teacher leadership and site governance committee
- Built curriculum district-wide for shift to Next Generation Science Standards using the StemScopes platform
- Managed ~$30,000 science department budget for 17 teachers

## Center for Cosmology and Particle Physics, New York, NY
*Research Assistant*

June 2011 - September 2012
- Member of the Astro-Particle Group
- Looked at different Active Galactic Nucleus (AGN) catalogs to see overlap and calibrate sources
- Programmed in Python for 16 weeks over 2 summers to learn how to manipulate, compile, and analyze large amounts of astronomical data
- Worked with large optical survey databases (e.g. 6df, Swif-bat, Sloan, and Pierre Auger) to organize and find errors and similarities between databases
- Created a new database of matched AGNs based on other databases and applied the graphical and statistical methods to evaluate this new set of data points

### EDUCATION

## Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX
*Doctorate of Education*

August 2021 - June 2024
Doctorate in Educational Leadership
Dissertation Topic: Recruiting and Retaining Asian American and Pacific Islander Teachers

## Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
*Masters of Science in Education*

August 2015 - June 2017

## New York University Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
*Bachelors of Science in Physics*

August 2010 - June 2014
Senior Capstone Project: Building Relevance in Science Education
Activities: Student Body Vice President; Co-founder of NYUAD Entrepreneurship Society; Studied in Shanghai January 2011, New York Fall 2012, London Spring 2013, Buenos Aires January 2014

### PROJECTS

## STAAR/MAP Tracker
*Excel Spreadsheet*

Tracker created to help increase state testing scores, which linked previous success on diagnostic testing with expected scores on end of year test to help teachers identify which students needed targeted support

## Relevance in Science Education
*Senior Capstone*

A qualitative study conducted on elementary science preservice teachers and how they built relevance and engagement in science on performance based activities

## GO Oakland Blog Posts
*Written Sample*

Blog posts and policy reviews that I wrote during my policy analyst internship in 2015 with Great Oakland Public Schools, a nonprofit advocating for enquiry in Oakland's school; included research and analysis of topics such as teacher effectiveness, school choice, and performance management

## Scan Method Preliminary Paper *Undergraduate Research*

Research conducted between June 2011 and July 2012 on a new method for detecting the source of Ultra High Energy Cosmic Rays (UHECRs) using Python