



Azizi Williams
Head of School

A Southern California native, Azizi Williams grew up attending independent schools, which fostered her passion for progressive education and the way it shapes lives. Azizi attended the University of California, Berkeley for undergraduate studies as a California Youth Leadership Scholar. At Berkeley, she earned a bachelor's degree in sociology while working as a teacher at the Harold E. Jones Child Study Center. This began her decades long work as an educator, innovator, and thoughtful advocate for impactful education.

In 2004, Azizi returned to Southern California where she taught elementary school for two years before becoming Assistant Head of School at Sequoyah School in Pasadena, California. She held the position for 15 years, overseeing admissions, curriculum development, student support, and diversity, equity, and inclusion. She was also integral in guiding the school's transition from a K-8 to a K-12 institution in 2016.

Azizi received a Master of Arts in educational leadership from Teachers College, Columbia University in May 2017 and in 2020 was hired to be the Head of School at Children's Community School- only the second person to lead the school in its 40 year history. "I strongly believe that a child-centered approach to education is integral to understanding how we can best support a student's outcome," Azizi shares. "Students at CCS are respectfully engaged in meaningful exploration and problem-solving and it's a joy to partner with faculty and staff to guide their campus journey."

Azizi is actively involved in her community outside of CCS as well. She serves as a trustee for Wildwood School, The Alliance for Minority Affairs, and SoCal POCIS, supporting BIPOC people in independent schools. Azizi was a co-founder of Women in Leadership Circle in Independent Schools, has been a featured speaker and presenter at the NAIS People of Color Conference, and leads workshops for California Teacher Development Collaborative.