



**Maria Villa-Marquez** is the Director of Parent and Family Engagement Department for the California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE) (2007-present). She is the Project Director for CABE's National Professional Development grant, Project DELIGHT, which provides a focus on Dual Language Immersion systemic implementation and the engagement and leadership building of educators, parents and families. She leads a dynamic Parent and Family Engagement team that provides services and coaching in parent and family leadership through Project 2INSPIRE, the Community Engagement Initiative, SIRS-Support for Immigrant and Refugee Students and Plaza Comunitaria. Formerly, she was the Project Coordinator for the California State University of Long Beach coordinating a longitudinal research project named DELSS (Development of Early Literacy in Spanish-Speaking Children). Maria obtained her B.A. in Liberal Arts with a concentration in Spanish in 2001, and her Master of Arts in Early Childhood Education in 2006.