

DR. ROXANNE GARCIA-FRANCE

Superintendent of Schools



FAVORITES

Ice Cream Flavor:
Salted Caramel Cluster
Cashew Milk

Favorite Sport:
Dancing

Superhero:
Neytiri, heroine in Avatar

Color:
Ruby Red

Vacation Spot:
Negril, Jamaica

Musical Artist:
Bob Marley

Fiction Novel:
"Jungle Book" by
Rudyard Kipling

Television Show:
"Saturday Night Live"

Movie:
"Avatar" by
James Cameron

MEET DR. GARCIA-FRANCE

Who would play you in a movie about your life?

Eartha Kitt, she was a famous, versatile, international artist and social activist, who didn't let her adverse childhood experiences impact her ability to believe in herself, achieve her dreams and use her platform to advocate for others.

Where did you grow up?

Primarily on Long Island, New York as well as in Jamaica, West Indies. I am a second-generation immigrant. I was born in America, and I am of Cuban and Jamaican descent. When I was young, I was often treated differently because of my mixed cultural backgrounds. I struggled trying to figure out where I fit in with my family and school. As I got older, I learned I had the very best of

both worlds because being a second-generation immigrant allowed me to develop cultural perspective and empathy for others.

What was the most difficult school subject for you?

I grew up speaking two dialects of English, British English and Jamaican Patois. As a child, being fluent in both dialects made it difficult for me to learn American English in the areas of pronunciation, spelling, figurative language and grammar. Now I am fluent in three dialects of English. I am often asked, "Do you speak Spanish?" I speak and understand a little Spanish. For me it is important I keep learning Spanish because it's a part of my cultural identity.

When did you know you wanted to become an educator?

I knew I wanted to become an educator, when I decided to immediately pursue a Master of Education degree upon graduating from Baruch College with a Bachelor of Business Administration. I graduated in two years and began my life-long journey of educating, inspiring, and empowering students, teachers, and leaders.

Why are you excited to rejoin the Valley Stream 30 school community?

I am excited to rejoin a community whose commitment to diversity, inclusivity, equity, and access creates a culture of belonging and connection for all students to reach their maximum potential.

If you could live anywhere, not on Long Island, where would it be? It's not about a location for me. I want to live on a horse ranch which allows my family and me to activate and maximize the potential of families in our community with the assistance of therapeutic horses

If you could have any superpower, what would it be? Activator, Maximizer of Potential, aka AMP