

I am Chris Baca. I was born in Albuquerque, NM and lived in the South Valley until I was eleven. Then my family moved to Las Vegas, NM so my mother could earn a Master's Degree in Social Work. When I was 17, my family returned to Albuquerque where I graduated from Rio Grande High School with a Presidential Scholarship to New Mexico Highlands University. I attended NMHU for two years on the Presidential Scholarship. I transferred to UNM and earned a Bachelor's of Arts in Fine Arts: Art History and Art Studio in 1993. Then, I returned and earned a Master's of Arts: in Bilingual and Multicultural Special Education from the University of New Mexico in 1999. In the summer of 1997, I attended UNM, College of Education's Summer Program in Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico, where I met my wife Mary Carmen Sanchez. We were married the following year in Guerrero, Mexico. We have two boys Chris and Thomas.

I started my career in public education as a substitute teacher for APS which I enjoyed very much. In 1998, I received my Special Education teacher's license and started at Carlos Rey Elementary in a 1st through 3rd Special Education Class. In 2000, I taught at School on Wheels Alternative High School. In 2001, I transferred to West Mesa High as Special Education Social Studies Teacher. Then, I became a teacher of the gifted and talented for 4 years at West Mesa. While at West Mesa, I became the M.E.Ch.A. sponsor teacher. M.E.Ch.A. de West Mesa successfully participated in several Día de los Muertos Marigold Parades and A Holiday Twinkle Light Parade. At present, I am teaching at Christine Duncan Community Charter School as Special Education Inclusion teacher and we just entered our first float in the Día de los Muertos Marigold Parade and plan to do more parades.