



## **Lisa Lazare**

*State Director, Educators for Excellence*

From an early age, Lisa Lazare was inspired and supported to advocate for herself and her education. Lisa has always had a passion for STEM, and in college, it became apparent that few women or men of color majored in the sciences. She assumed that the lack of representation stemmed from the lack of educators of color in the classroom. To combat that inequity, Lisa became a chemistry teacher.

In the classroom, she found her calling as an education advocate and developed a deeper understanding of the root causes for the lack of representation in the STEM field. Understanding that the problem was systemic and institutional, she endeavored to broaden her impact to include as many students, families, and communities as possible. She transitioned from the classroom into education policy and advocacy and witnessed the power of grassroots organizing as a vehicle for change.

She is an immigrant and a woman of color and recognizes there have been many spaces where her voice was either stifled, not allowed, or just blatantly ignored. She currently is the State Director at Educators for Excellence-Boston. In every aspect of her life, Lisa grounds herself in listening to the community's needs and always bears in mind that the best intentions do not always have the intended impact.

- **Leadership Superpower:** "My leadership superpower is my ability to leverage my teams' strengths."
- **What brings her joy:** Listening to audiobooks, taking long walks with her dog, and being with friends and families.
- **Theme Song:** "My theme song is "Flawless" by Beyonce. This song is like an armor. When I put this on in the morning, I am reminded that I am powerful, take up space, and flawless. To me, it speaks to how to be unapologetic and stand in your power."