



**Ariel Lajara, Principal**  
**Honorable Luis Muñoz-Marín Elementary School**  
**School District of Philadelphia**

*“Serving as a principal in my own community is, and has always been, a lifelong dream. I am dedicated to cultivating and sustaining a high performing school for inner city youth. For me, being a principal in the School District of Philadelphia affords me the opportunity to learn from other transformational leaders across the city.”*

**School Type**

District

**Grade Levels**

K-8

**Student Enrollment**

617

**Neighborhood**

Fairhill

**Education**

M.Ed. in Special Education  
and Educational  
Administration,  
Cabrini College

B.A. in Elementary  
Education,

Lincoln University of PA

Ariel has served as the principal of Honorable Luis Muñoz-Marín Elementary School since 2016. Under his leadership, Marín has increased the number of students earning proficient or advanced on Pennsylvania System of School Assessment from 10% to 25%. Marín has received the Accelerated Improvement Award the past two academic school years and the Exemplary 3 Consecutive Years of SPR Growth Award in 2019 for moving up one tier in their SPR scores two school years in a row.

Ariel has been an educator since 2004. Prior to becoming a principal, Ariel served as a 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, director of instruction/behavior, a dean of students and an assistant principal. Ariel grew up in New York and after relocating to Philadelphia attended Jay Cooke Middle School and Olney High School.