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Carmen Coleman, formerly Superintendent of Danville Independent Schools, is now an associate clinical professor at the University of Kentucky. In this role, she works with National Center for Innovation in Education and the Next Generation Leadership Academy. While serving as superintendent in Danville, the district focus was to create a system of personalized learning, one with flexibility designed to inspire students to become strong and enthusiastic learners rather than those who can only clear test score hurdles. As result, Danville was chosen as one of the first Districts of Innovation in the state. Because of their success and work with project-based learning and performance-based assessments, the district was featured on PBS' NewsHour, in the Harvard Letter, District Administration and multiple times in Tom VanderArk's Getting Smart blog as well as in many other state and national publications. In addition, the district has more than doubled the number of students who qualify as "ready" for college and/or career as measured by Kentucky's accountability system since 2012.

Prior to her time in Danville, Carmen served as a director of elementary schools in Fayette County, the second largest school district in Kentucky. In addition, she has been both an elementary school principal and teacher.