A person standing in front of a tree

Description automatically generated

**Melissa Hannequin**

Melissa Hannequin is the Executive Director of Danbury Collective. She previously worked for the New York City Department of Education, where she was a leader in expanding families’ access to free, high-quality early childhood programs through the 3-K and Pre-K for All universal preschool initiative, and opening preschool special education programs in New York City public schools. Melissa believes that in order to truly change systems, we need to work collectively and in our communities. Melissa earned her Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and International Studies from Fairfield University (Fairfield, CT) and Master of Science in Public Policy and Management from Carnegie Mellon University (Pittsburgh, PA), and holds a Certificate in Education Finance from Georgetown University. She is a lifelong resident of the greater Danbury area.