

New Class of Distinguished Leaders Chosen for National School Superintendent Training Program

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LOS ANGELES – Twelve prominent leaders nationwide, including education executives, high-ranking military officials, civic leaders and a former U.S. congressman have been selected to participate in the 2008 Broad Superintendents Academy, The Broad Center for the Management of School Systems announced today.

The Broad Superintendents Academy is a 10-month executive management training program to train top executives from education, military, business, non-profit and government backgrounds to lead urban public school districts. It is the only program in the country that recruits and trains non-traditional superintendent candidates, as well as career educators. To date, graduates of the program have filled 42 superintendent positions and 65 senior school district executive positions.

Among this year's participants are a former U.S. congressman, two retired U.S. Air Force colonels, a U.S. Marine Corps master sergeant, a State superintendent of education and a former associate state superintendent of education. Participants currently holding positions as high-level education executives are leading school districts in the following cities:

Chino, Calif.
Denver, Colo.
Baton Rouge, La.

Jackson, Miss.
New York
Providence, R.I.

Pueblo, Colo.
Saint Paul, Minn.
Washington, D.C.

A full list of participants is below, and photos are available upon request.

“Every day, Korea, Finland and a dozen other nations are far surpassing the U.S. in student achievement,” said Eli Broad, founder of The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation, which funds The Broad Center. “For our country to once again become educationally competitive, we need to prepare our students, especially those in our inner cities, for a global economy far beyond the four walls of the classroom. These proven leaders are ready to take on this challenge, and they have stepped up to take on the most important job in America: urban school superintendent.”

Following a rigorous review and selection process, only four percent of this year's applicants were accepted into the program.

Participants in The Broad Superintendents Academy keep their current jobs and attend seven extended-weekend training sessions covering CEO-level skills in education, finance, management, operations and organizational systems. This year's sessions will be held in Los Angeles, Long Beach, Calif., Oakland, Calif., Chicago, Charlotte, N.C., Boston, and Miami. The Broad Center covers tuition, travel and all program expenses. At the conclusion of the program, The Broad Center will help place participants in urban school districts as superintendents and senior executives.

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The 2008 class is the seventh to be trained by The Broad Superintendents Academy. Seven out of ten graduates from the first six classes have been hired around the country as superintendents or school district executives or have been promoted into those positions. Of all large urban school districts that have conducted external searches for new superintendents during 2005 and 2006, one-quarter filled their positions with graduates of The Broad Superintendents Academy.

The Broad Superintendents Academy has trained more working superintendents than any other training program. Graduates of the program currently work as superintendents in 19 states in the following cities:

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|------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Andover, Kan. | Fort Worth, Texas | Prince Edward County, Va. |
| Antioch, Calif. | Highline, Wash. | Prince George's County, |
| Arlington, Mass. | Houston | Md. |
| Aurora, Colo. | Lorain, Ohio | Providence, R.I. |
| Charleston, S.C. | Montgomery, Ala. | Rochester, N.Y. |
| Charlotte-Mecklenburg, | North Allegheny, Pa. | San Diego County, Calif. |
| N.C. | Oakland, Calif. | San Juan Capistrano, Calif. |
| Christina (Wilmington), Del. | Paterson, N.J. | Seattle |
| Durham, N.C. | Philadelphia | Swampscott, Mass. |
| Elizabeth, N.J. | Pittsburgh | Utica, Mich |
| Fort Bend, Texas | Pomona, Calif. | |
| Fort Wayne, Ind. | Portsmouth, R.I. | |

Based on analysis of student achievement data for Broad Superintendents Academy graduates who have served as superintendents for two or more testing cycles:

- Ninety percent are improving student achievement in at least *5 of 6* of the following performance areas (elementary school reading, elementary school math, middle school reading, middle school math, high school reading, and high school math).
- Sixty percent are improving student achievement in *all six* academic performance areas.

In addition, graduates who have served as superintendents for two or more testing cycles are outperforming comparison groups, including: (1) the district's historical performance; (2) demographically similar districts in the state; (3) districts in the same state led by non-academy trained superintendents; and (4) the state-wide average:

- Over 80 percent are outperforming comparison groups in reducing the percentage of students at the lowest proficiency levels on state achievement exams.
- Sixty percent are also increasing the percentage of students meeting or exceeding proficiency standards faster than comparison groups.

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The Broad Center for the Management of School Systems is funded by The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation, a national venture philanthropy established by entrepreneur and philanthropist Eli Broad to advance entrepreneurship for the public good in education, science and the arts. The Broad Foundation's education work is focused on dramatically improving urban K-12 public education through better governance, management, labor relations and competition. Eli Broad is a renowned business leader who founded two Fortune 500 companies, SunAmerica Inc. and KB Home. For more information, go to www.broadcenter.org or www.broadfoundation.org.

**The Broad Center for the Management of School Systems
2008 Broad Superintendents Academy
Participants**

Jaime Aquino
chief academic officer
Denver Public Schools
Denver, Colo.

Bonita Coleman-Potter
deputy superintendent of instruction
Jackson Public Schools
Jackson, Miss.

John Wm. Covington
superintendent
Pueblo City Schools
Pueblo, Colo.

Deborah A. Gist
State superintendent of education
Washington, D.C.

Tomás Hanna
deputy superintendent of operations
Providence Public Schools
Providence, R.I.

Edmond Heatley
superintendent
Chino Valley Unified School District
Chino, Calif.
Master Sgt. (Ret.), U.S. Marine Corps

Paul Manley
director of business development

L-3 Space and Navigation
Budd Lake, N.J.

Maria G. Pitre
assistant superintendent of instruction,
Area II (middle schools)
East Baton Rouge Parish School System
Baton Rouge, La.

Shael Polakow-Suransky
chief academic officer, empowerment
schools
New York City Department of
Education
New York City

Francis D. Pombar
Col. (Ret.), U.S. Air Force
former deputy director, Air Force Smart
Operations Office for the 21st Century,
Pentagon
Herndon, VA

Frank Riggs
president and CEO
Charter Schools Development Corp.
former U.S. Representative (R-CA)

Valeria Silva
chief academic officer
Saint Paul Public Schools
Saint Paul, Minn.