

Donald Goncalves
School Business Administrator

It is a distinct honor to discuss my perspective on leadership, the impact it can have on public education, and my own professional development as a result of having worked with Pablo Muñoz.

With a background in business and finance and training from Temple University's Fox School of Business, I began my career in the business sector, working a number of years on Wall Street, and then transitioning over to position as director for an economic development agency. Having a clear, common sense approach to business, and to life, as well as the necessary problem-solving skills required for organizations, were all part of my formative training.

However, it is my work in education that has been the most fulfilling of all, as it coincides with the extraordinary educational work and leadership of Pablo Muñoz. Understanding that I had a business background, Pablo brought me on to direct and manage the school facilities, technology initiatives, security programs, food services, as well as media and communications for Elizabeth Public Schools. A number of years later, I was able to join him in Passaic, New Jersey, assuming the role of Chief of Operations with comparable duties. Pablo's focus on operational and instructional excellence, continuous learning for all team members, and the development of strong leadership principles, continues to be a hallmark of his work in education. Having worked with him and the high-impact group of individuals from his cabinet, has brought me great pride in the achievements we accomplished as a team.

Pablo is a true innovator, motivator, and coach, and that leadership translates into achievement. His laser-like focus on improving school systems has received the attention of prominent national educational organizations, and has been written about in a number of educational books which highlight the reforming of public school systems. Particularly noteworthy is that he has helped to design, construct and open more than 10 brand new public schools. However, his true passion and talent is in helping to provide a 'blueprint' on how schools can achieve academic success. His focus on the instructional core, the design of a strong theory of action along with the ability to effectively plan and execute, will help to create a path for success in any educational organization.

Pablo's track record stands as a testament to his leadership qualities to help team members to achieve their goals. Those successes now span well over three decades, and they are highlighted by the receipt of numerous national awards, blue ribbon designations, and endorsements by extraordinary educational and leadership organizations like the Broad Foundation, the Panasonic Foundation, Edutopia, and the Disney Institute.

Pablo is truly a dynamic leader, who understands how to inspire school leaders to achieve their personal best. I know this to be true, and I can tell you that my time in education has been one of the most gratifying periods in my life, as a result of his knowledge, guidance, and leadership. Your own ability to lead will be impacted by his strategic mindset and support. I recommend Pablo Muñoz leadership without hesitation.

Sincerely,



Don Goncalves