

Abelardo Saavedra, Ph.D

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PROFILE

On August 31, 2009, Dr. Abelardo Saavedra retired from the Houston Independent School District as Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Saavedra's retirement was the culmination of 36 years as an educator in the public schools of Houston and Corpus Christi. Since his retirement, Dr. Saavedra has continued to serve on the boards of several non-profit organizations and has continued his involvement in education by working as a consultant/contractor serving various entities including the District Management Council, the Broad Center, the National Center for Education Statistics, Education Service Center-Region 4, and others. On September 1, 2010, Dr. Saavedra started work as a Clinical Professor of Education Administration with Texas A&M University.

EXPERIENCE

Superintendent of Schools, Houston Independent School District (HISD)— 2004-2009

Served as chief education officer of the largest school district in Texas. HISD is the seventh largest school district in the country serving approximately 200,000 students with an annual budget of \$1.7 billion. Major initiatives included the establishment of the largest pay for performance program for teachers in the United States and the development of a value-added data base to assess teacher performance.

Executive Deputy Superintendent for School Support, Houston Independent School District (HISD) — 2002-2004

A direct report to the Superintendent of Schools with the responsibility of overseeing the work of the departments of Special Education, Guidance and Counseling, Athletics, Parent Engagement, and Health Services.

South East District Superintendent, Houston Independent School District (HISD)— 2001-2002

Served as one of thirteen area superintendents in the HISD. Responsible for 17 schools serving approximately 12,000 students.

Superintendent of Schools, Corpus Christi Independent School District (CCISD) — 1993-2000

Served as chief education officer in an urban district serving approximately 42,000 students with a budget exceeding \$200,000,000. Major initiatives included the development and implementation of academic performance standards in all schools in the district. Modified student report cards to include student performance on the performance standards.

Associate Superintendent for Business Support Services, Corpus Christi Independent School District (CCISD) — 1986-1993

Served as chief business officer for the school district. Responsible for all business operations of the school district including the Budget Office, Maintenance Department, Purchasing and Procurement, Transportation Department, Food Service, Construction Office, and the Police Department.

Assistant Superintendent for School Management, Corpus Christi Independent School District (CCISD)-1985-1986

Responsible for the supervision and accountability of all elementary and secondary school principals in CCISD.

Director of Secondary School Management, Corpus Christi Independent School District (CCISD)-1984-1985

Responsible for the supervision and accountability of all secondary school principals in CCISD.

Junior High School Principal, Corpus Christi Independent School District (CCISD)-1979-1984

Served as principal of Cunningham Junior High and Baker Junior High. Baker Junior High was a school within a school setting serving neighborhood students and gifted students from throughout CCISD.

Junior High School Assistant Principal, Corpus Christi Independent School District (CCISD)-1976-1979

Served as assistant principal at Baker Junior High and South Park Junior.

Classroom Teacher, Corpus Christi Independent School District (CCISD)-1972-1976

Taught social studies at Driscoll Junior and at South Park Junior High. Also taught Distributive Education at Ray High School.

Other Experience

Faculty Advisor, Broad Superintendents Academy, 2006-present

Principal Mentor and Adjunct Professor of School Finance and Organizational Theory, University of Houston, Main Campus and Clear Lake Campus, 2002-2004

Adjunct Professor for School of Education, Texas A&M, Corpus Christi, 1978-1991 and 1998-2000

Education Consultant/Contractor, 2009-present

Clinical Professor of Education Administration, Texas A&M University, College Station, 2010-present

EDUCATION

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor — Ph.D in School Administration, 1976

Texas A&I University, Kingsville - Masters of Science in School Administration, 1974

Texas A&I University, Kingsville - Bachelors of Science with majors in physical education and history, 1972

Del Mar Junior College, Corpus Christi, 1969-1970

CERTIFICATION

Texas Provisional High School Certificate

Texas Professional Life Administrator Certificate

Texas Principal Certificate

Texas Superintendent Certificate

STATE AND NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Region 4 Superintendent of the Year, 2008

Advisory Board Member with the District Management Council, 2009-present

Participant with the Aspen Institute, 2005-2009

Broad Superintendents Academy, 2002

