

New CEO For Chgo. Public Schools

Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot named Pedro Martinez as the next Chief Executive Officer at Chicago Public Schools. A native of Aguascalientes, Mexico, his family moved when he was five years old in search of a better life. Martinez graduated from Benito Juarez High School and grew up in Chicago's Pilsen neighborhood.

Martinez joined San Antonio Texas independent school district in 2015. Under his leadership, the District improved graduation and college-going rates from 82% to 85%. Martinez also re-designed ten underutilized neighborhood schools and implemented innovative, inclusive school models of education.

Before coming to SAISD, Martinez was Superintendent-in-Residence for the Nevada Department of Education and was responsible for advising the Governor's office and the State Superintendent of Instruction on education reforms.

Prior to that, he served as superintendent for the 65,000-student Washoe County School District, covering the Reno, Nevada area. He raised graduation rates from 66% to 73%, reduced remediation rates by 33%, and increased student participation and performance in the advanced placement courses by 40% for Latino students and 20% for African American students.

Martinez also previously served as Chief Financial Officer at Chicago Public Schools managing an operating budget of \$5 billion. Over six years, he helped create and streamline systems to help educators improve outcomes for the district's students, raising the high school graduation rate by 20%.

Martinez has more than 20 years of experience in the private, nonprofit and public education sectors and is an experienced, and data-driven leader with a strong financial background, an in-depth knowledge of academics, strategic planning, talent management, staff and community engagement.

He holds an M.B.A. from DePaul University and a bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He also is a graduate of the Broad Superintendents Academy. As the oldest of 12 children, he was first to graduate from high school and college. Martinez and his wife have two children, ages 11 and 7.



P. MARTINEZ