

Todd Anthony Walker, J.D., Ph.D.

School System Leader

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Systems leader with 25+ years demonstrated success in PK-12 instructional and organizational leadership in a diverse and complex setting. Dr. Walker leads all teaching and learning offices within the largest school district in Ohio (47K+), advancing student outcomes through people development, collaborative team building, process innovation, fiscal management and mobilizing strategic stakeholders.

HIGHLIGHTS & SKILLS

- Academic and business leader currently supervising 400+ district leaders, overseeing 113M dollar budget, impacting 4500 staff and 47K+ Students.
- Served as a teacher, building administrator and campus director with a proven record of increasing student outcomes prior to taking on a cabinet-level position.
- Skilled at building systems and processes to increase organizational capacity with a strong record of improving student outcomes: Consistent overall gains in literacy, increasing third grade literacy rate by over 7 percent (from 33.5 to 40.7) and improving mathematics outcomes impacting over 30K students (grades K-8) from 2022 to 2024.
- Results driven with experience in strategic planning: led cross departmental effort reducing 50+ Special Education teacher vacancies to 0 unfilled classrooms between June, 2024 and December, 2024.
- Improved Career Technical Planning District outcomes on the state report card from 3.5 out of 5 in 2022-23 to 4.5 out of 5 in 2023-24, exceeding state standards.

EDUCATION, TRAINING & CREDENTIALS

J.D., Governance and Negotiation, *Capital University Law School, Columbus, OH*

Ph.D., Education Policy and Leadership, *The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH*

M.Ed., English Education, *The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH*

B.A., Philosophy, *The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH*

Howard University - AASA Urban Superintendent Academy Cohort 10, 2025

University of Washington College of Education - Instructional Leadership Academy, 2025

Forum for Educational Leadership – Forum Cohort 6, 2024

Harvard Graduate School of Education – National Institute for Urban School Leaders, 2015

Georgetown University Certificate in Education Finance, 2024

Ohio Superintendent's License; PK-12 Administration, English through 2029

Ohio Licensed Attorney; Ohio Bar, The Supreme Court of Ohio through 2026

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Chief Curriculum and Instruction Officer (August 2022 – Present)

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Currently holds primary responsibility for Curriculum and Instruction and its various offices and divisions that support the broader reform effort at CCS. Acts as key decision-maker and advisor to the Superintendent on all aspects of inclusive student instruction, academic innovation, and educator professional development for 4500 instructional staff impacting 47K+ students.

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP & INNOVATION

- Created and executed [Academic Services Vision 2033](#) – aligning Curriculum & Instruction core competencies (Core Instruction integrated with 21st century competencies, Collaboration and Whole-System Professional Learning) to catalyze system-wide effectiveness.
- Initiated District Math Goal; Overall, after 1 year, proficiency rates 2023-24 sy (grades 3-8) improved in Mathematics (1.2 percentage points); Gains in performance were shared across racial and service groups with all groups either increasing in proficiency or remaining stable (with changes in performance of less than 1 percentage point).
- Led cross-department collaboration to refine the district's Core Instructional Framework and system-wide Learning Walk Tool to monitor implementation of Tier 1 instruction.

FINANCE

- Implemented an outcomes based budget process to prioritize allocations and monitor expenditures across all Curriculum and Instruction offices and divisions, leading to a thirty-percent reduction – supporting capital improvement investments with a savings of \$10M+ (fy24).
- Led Academic Return on Investment (ROI) process with the Treasurer's office and restructured Curriculum and Instruction budget to repurpose 5M+ (fy25) to advance strategic priorities.

OPERATIONS

- Senior leadership sponsor for expansion and redesign of college and career-connected learning - operationalizing 4 high schools and with 6 career pathways beginning 2025-26 sy.
- Architect of 'academic benefits of consolidation' to guide Superintendent's Community Task Force recommendations, and to provide a framework for Board of Education (BOE) decisions regarding school closure and consolidation - 3 Elementary Schools, 1 Middle School, 1 High School
- Led the reconfiguration of the District Leadership Team providing integrated system-level support to buildings across multiple stakeholder departments: Operations, Talent Management, Strategic Performance & Equity, Schools, and Curriculum & Instruction.

ADVOCACY & BOARD GOVERNANCE

- Advised superintendent and briefed Board of Education (BOE) on matters related to Board Goals, Guardrails, and Curriculum and Instruction, and led the adoption of district-wide Math Goal and revision Portrait of a Graduate as a guardrail (2023).
- Led policy conversation with state representative on needed policy supports for mathematics on WOSU | NPR | PBS, providing the framework for statewide Math needs discussion amongst Ohio Urban 8 Superintendents and Labor leaders.
- Collaborated with Legal Services and Policy Governance personnel to craft recommended revisions to Board Policies and Administrative Guidelines (AGs) regarding the selection of Instructional Resources (i.e. Textbooks, Instructional Materials, Library Materials) and associated complaint procedures; worked with the Board's Governance, Policy & Advocacy Committee (GPAC) to make revisions to draft policies and AGs and presented final recommendations to the BOE.

HUMAN CAPITAL & TALENT MANAGEMENT

- As a member of the BOE negotiations team, initiated a High Needs Licensure program enacted during the 2022-23 school year to increase the pool of certified special education, math, science and hard to

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staff teaching positions available to meet the district's needs with 7 teachers currently placed in classrooms and 14 additional staff currently completing coursework.

- In response to ESSER cliff, repurposed 100+ administrative and teaching positions in 2023-24, reducing classroom vacancies and prioritizing additional support for early literacy and mathematics.

PK-12 Campus Director (August 2016-2022)

Oversee the alignment of Columbus Africentric Early College (CAEC) campus, including curriculum and instruction, and operations for Elementary, Middle and High schools: PK-5, 6-8, and 9-12, within Columbus City Schools.

- Led logistics and operations to transition 3 schools to new school site located on 55 acres: 47M project (2016-17)
- Elementary Progress indicator increased from D (2015-16) to A (2018-19); Gap Closing increased from F / .3% (2015-16) to B 89.9% (2018-19)
- Demonstrated increase in 4-year cohort graduation rate from 72.3% in 2015 to 100% in 2022.
- Secondary Gap Closing increased from F / 0% (2015-16) to B / 89.9% (2018-19)
- Demonstrated increase on Ohio State Test (OST) outcomes in all tested areas from 2016 to 2018: Most notably Biology from 7% proficient in 2016 to 60.9 % in 2019 and American History from 32.6% in 2016 to 54% in 2019

Principal (August 2012-16)

Led transformative efforts of traditional 9-12 highschool within Columbus City Schools.

- Established the [Walnut Ridge Initiative](#), a student inclusive site-based community collaborative, to leverage organizational expertise and human capital in meeting the diverse needs of the school.
- Led improvement of Ohio Graduation Test performance on all five tested subject areas 2012-13 to 2014-15 (*test was changed in 2016): *12 percentage point increase in Mathematics* from 56.2% to 68.6%; *2 percentage point increase in Reading* from 74% to 76.6%; *19 percentage point increase in Science* from 32.6% to 51.5%; *25 percentage point increase in Social Studies* from 46.5 percent to 71.9 percent; and *15 percentage point increase in Writing* from 60.3% to 75.3%
- *Achieved overall Grade of B in Progress* - measuring the growth that all students made based on their past performance; *Achieved Grade of A in Progress* for students identified as the lowest 20 % statewide in Reading, Math, Science or Social Studies achievement.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Lecturer , The Ohio State University (part-time)	2025 - Present
Adjunct Professor , Bowling Green State University (part-time)	2022
School Law Research Associate , The Ohio State University (part-time)	2016
Treasurer , Columbus Administrators Association	2014-2015
Assistant Principal – Columbus City Schools	2010-2012
Leadership Intern – Columbus City Schools	2009-2010
Master Teacher – Columbus City Schools / Teacher Advancement Program	2007-2009
Curriculum Writer – Columbus City Schools (part-time)	2004-2007
High School English Teacher – Columbus City Schools	2000-2007
Adjunct Teacher – Columbus State Community College (part-time)	2000-2007

RECENT COMMITTEE & BOARDS

Midwestern Regional Council, *The College Board*, 2024-Present
Academic and Facilities Alignment Committee, *Columbus BOE*, 2024-Present
Equitable and Transparent Resource Committee, *Columbus BOE*, 2024-Present
Joint Labor Management Committee, *Columbus City Schools*, 2022-Present
Board of Education (BOE) Negotiations Team, *Columbus City Schools*, 2022
Reimagine Me Leadership Series Committee, *Columbus City Schools*, 2019
BOE Policy Review Committee, *Columbus City Schools*, 2014-2016
BOE Innovation and Reform Committee, *Columbus City Schools*, 2014-2016
BOE Community Engagement Committee, *Columbus City Schools*, 2014-2015
Grading Policy Committee, *Columbus City Schools*, 2013-2014

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION LEADERSHIP

- **The College Board**, since 2024
 - Midwestern Regional Council Member (elected representative for Ohio)
 - Working with system level stakeholders to increase access to and relevance of K-12 and Higher Education opportunities for all students and families.
- **The Forum for Educational Leadership**, since 2024
 - Cohort 6
 - Ongoing skill development in creating and sustaining integrated systems, structures and processes to increase student achievement at scale.
- **Aspen Education & Society**, since 2022
 - Member – Chief Academic Officer (CAO) – Chief of Schools (COS) Network
 - National network of large urban districts (Chicago, Baltimore, Tulsa, etc.) - sharing cross-functional practices to increase system wide coherence.

HONORS, AWARDS & PUBLICATIONS

- Education Human Ecology K-12 Educator Leadership Award, *The Ohio State University*, 2025
- People Like Me, Inc., [Central Ohio Honors Recipient](#) (Education), 2025
- Blog, [Empowering to Lead](#), since 2024
- WOSU Public Media | NPR | PBS, [Is it time to change how math is taught?](#), 2023
- National School Public Relations Association (PRA), *Publications and Digital Media Excellence Award Winner*; Ohio School PRA, *Mark of Excellence*, [Inside CCS: Teacher Chat](#), 2023
- National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (NATAS) | Ohio Valley Chapter, *Emmy Nominee - Education Short or Long Form* ([Sankofa 2022](#)), 2023
- The Telly Awards, *Gold Winner: Educational Institution – Television* ([Sankofa 2021](#)), 2021
- Defense Logistics Agency, [Carter G. Woodson Award Recipient](#), 2019
- Chaminade-Julienne Catholic High School, *Hall of Distinguished Alumni Inductee*, 2018
- Corwin Press, *Leading Schools in Disruptive Times*, Chapter Contributor, 2018
- Ingram Foundation, *Ingram Award for Principals*, 2013
- Ohio Department of Education – Center for the Teaching Profession, *Commendation*, 2008



To get to know me better, please visit the website that I created for you. <toddanthonywalker.com>