

**Vita**  
**Joseph M. Porto, Ed.D.**

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**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Educational Consultant**

2011-Present

JMP Consulting, Ltd.  
Arlington Heights, IL

Provide expert consulting services to school districts and school boards in the areas of strategic planning, long-range technology plans, school board relations, administrative mentoring, climate and satisfaction surveys, and leadership training.

**Partner/Director Executive Search Firm**

2011-Present

BWP and Associates  
Libertyville, IL

Conduct administrative leadership searches in the Midwestern states, including searches for superintendents, principals and central office administrators. Also offer strategic planning facilitation and board orientation services to client districts.

**Clinical Assistant Professor**

2011-2014

Northern Illinois University  
DeKalb, IL

Teach in the graduate program for the Department of Leadership, Educational Psychology and Foundations. Classes all focus on educational administration and include both master's level and doctoral program coursework.

**Superintendent of Schools**

2002-2011

Avoca School District 37  
Wilmette, IL

Provided leadership and vision to a high quality, high expectation school district in the north shore suburbs, serving 675 children in two school facilities (K-5<sup>th</sup> Elementary and 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Middle with a preschool). Work collaboratively with a dynamic, visionary and high-energy Board of Education. Guide a lighthouse district that provides innovative programs that have attracted educational visitors from around the nation and from foreign countries. Oversee an ambitious long-range strategic plan and an award-winning technology program. Provide leadership for the district-wide Learning Communities Model that drives the district's efforts at continuous improvement of instruction.

**Superintendent of Schools**

1995- 2002

Pleasantdale School District 107  
Burr Ridge, IL

Provided leadership and vision to a fast-growing, high quality school district in the western suburbs, serving 700 children in two school facilities (Pre-K-4<sup>th</sup> Elementary and 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Middle). Supervised an administrative team consisting of two principals, a business manager and a special education coordinator. Directed efforts in all facets of instructional leadership including curriculum development, technology integration, instructional improvement, student assessment, and staff development

**Director of Instructional Development**

1993-1995

North Shore School District 112  
(Consolidation of former Highland Park School Districts 107, 108, 111)  
Highland Park, IL

Provided leadership in the areas of curriculum design and staff development for an elementary school district of 4000 children. Supervised the Curriculum Development Team, a group of 13 teacher-leaders representing each major subject and program area. The team was responsible for curriculum development, field-based resource support and staff development. Initiated, implemented and evaluated professional development opportunities for a faculty of 500 certified and classified staff.

**Elementary Principal**

1989-1993

Red Oak School  
Highland Park School District 108  
Highland Park, IL

Provided leadership to a high expectation suburban community with an established quality educational program. Supervised, evaluated and provided instructional leadership for a highly skilled professional staff. Established a collaborative site-based decision-making model that became one of the models for the district. Created an innovative inclusionary special education delivery model for seriously disabled children. Successfully implemented a collaboratively developed long-range strategic plan.

**Elementary Principal**

1986-1989

Indian Knoll School  
West Chicago School District 33  
West Chicago, IL

Provided instructional leadership for a culturally, ethnically and socio-economically diverse school community consisting of 600 children and 45 staff members. Developed, implemented and evaluated a series of instructional innovations that resulted in significant improvements in student achievement scores for three consecutive years. Conducted staff development programs in the areas of health, collaboration, the writing process and drug awareness education.

**Assistant Principal**

1984-1986

Cooper Junior High  
Community Consolidated School District 21  
Wheeling, IL

Provided leadership in the areas of student discipline, public relations, student scheduling, extra-curricular activities and plant management for a high-achieving suburban school consisting of 700 students and 60 staff members. Assisted in the supervision and evaluation of certified and classified staff. Developed a school-wide student decision-making model and consistent, child-centered disciplinary policies. Created various opportunities for positive student involvement and school spirit.

### **Elementary Teacher**

1978-1984

Virginia Lake School

Community Consolidated School District 15

Palatine, IL

Taught in self-contained elementary classrooms at grades 5 and 6, and in multi-grade team teaching classrooms in grades 3-5. Initiated cutting edge programs in literature-based reading, process writing, experiential math and cooperative learning

### **EDUCATION**

Doctor of Education, Educational Administration	1994
Northern Illinois University	De Kalb, IL
Master of Science, Educational Administration	1983
Northern Illinois University	De Kalb, IL
Bachelor of Arts, Elementary Education	1978
National College of Education	Evanston, IL
High School Diploma	1974
Brother Rice High School	Chicago, IL

### **PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

*“Leading Major Change in Education: What The Beatles Can Teach Us.”* An Illinois-approved Administrator Academy workshop, using the career of The Beatles as an analogy for the processes of leadership and change in education. 2012- Present.

Porto, Joseph M. (2010). Power and Impact: The Superintendent as Student Mentor. The School Administrator. September, 2010, 40-41.

Porto, Joseph M. (2009). Using *Good to Great* to rethink planning. The Illinois School Board Journal. 77, 22-26.

“Moving From *Good to Great*: Using a New Paradigm for Strategic Planning.” Workshop presented at the T + L Technology Conference hosted by the National School Board Association, Seattle, 2008

“The Role of Board Members in Negotiations.” Workshop presented at the Illinois Association of School Boards Joint Conference, Chicago, 2007.