



Biography

Peter Joshua

Peter Joshua assumed the role of director of education for the Peel District School Board, Canada's second largest and one of North America's fastest-growing public school systems, on July 17, 2017. With more than 153,000 students, 253 schools, over 20,000 employees and a budget of over \$1.8 billion, the Peel board is one of the most significant and successful organizations in the Greater Toronto Area.

With a 27-year career at Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board, Peter brings a commitment to achieving student success, passion for education, and optimistic and inspiring leadership to the role of director. Peter began his career in education in 1990 as a science teacher at Sherwood Secondary School in the Wentworth County District School Board. After time as a teacher and department head, he served as a vice-principal and principal for 10 years.

In 2007, Peter's leadership skills were acknowledged by his appointment as system principal of safe schools, and then in 2008 when he was appointed to superintendent of leadership and learning – secondary program and student success lead. In 2013, Peter became superintendent of student achievement and served in this role until January 2016 when he was appointed executive superintendent of leadership and learning at Hamilton-Wentworth. His system responsibilities focused on equity and inclusion, innovating student pathways, school climate, and leadership and staff development in program and curriculum for grades K-12 and continuing education.

Peter graduated from Erindale Secondary School and attended Thorn Lodge and Homelands Sr. public schools while growing up in Mississauga. His own experience of his parents immigrating to Canada from India in the 1960s has given him unique insight and a strong connection to Peel's newcomer population. Peter is committed to expanding the Peel board's work with diverse communities.

Known as an optimistic, enthusiastic and an inspiring leader, Peter understands what it is like to be a learner and a leader. He has a genuine belief in recognizing people at all levels of the organization, and in nurturing collaborative team-building and communication.

Peter builds on his commitment to student success by playing a leadership role in local and provincial initiatives. In addition to his leadership within a school board setting, he has provided leadership at the provincial level as a member of the Board of Directors of the Ontario Public Supervisory Officials' Association (OPSOA) since 2013. Peter served as the southwest regional director for OPSOA from 2013-16.

Peter has developed strong relationships with community partners, including municipal and social sector organizations. He represented Hamilton-Wentworth on the Mohawk College Access Cabinet by working alongside community partners to provide long-term support tools, including financial aid, social and emotional support, for students.

Peter lives with his wife Penny and his two daughters, Emily and Selena, in Stoney Creek. He enjoys time spent outdoors hiking and running, and painting. Peter holds a master's degree from McMaster University, undergraduate degrees from McMaster University and University of Western Ontario, as well as supervisory officer, principal and other professional certifications.