



Candace (Pelt*) Perez, Ed.D

Dallas, OR

www.candaceperez@gmail.com

503-560-6455

Public education administrator experienced in leading school operations and safety with a specific background in Special Education, personnel supervision, as well as school and district administration.

Summary of Expertise:

Experienced School District Administrator serving public education since 2002. Professional practice includes Superintendent of a K-12 school system, State Special Education Director for Oregon, School District Special Education Director, public school Administrator, and classroom teacher.

My experience and background include:

- Responsible for Special Education implementation in public schools including Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- Implementation of State and Federal guidelines for instructional practices and placement options for students who experience disabilities.
- Implementing Policies and procedures for students who experience disabilities in public and private schools.
- Training and implementation of regulations and requirements for school administrators, licensed educators, paraprofessionals, and parents.
- University Professor for courses in Special Education, School Finance, and School Policy
- Leading systems improvement initiatives.
- Managing Human Resources, hiring practices, recruitment, and retention.
- Oversight of school safety systems, including restraint and seclusion policy and practice.
- Oversight and management of school athletic programs.

Relevant Experience:

12/2021 - Present	Superintendent - Central Linn School District, OR
1/2021 - Present	Executive Consulting for Special Education Directors, OR
3/2021 - 12/2021	District Assistant Superintendent - Central Linn School District, OR
9/2018 - 2/2021	State Special Education Director - Oregon Department of Education, OR
7/2013 - 8/2018	Director of Special Programs and Elementary Schools - Newberg Public Schools, OR
6/2005 - 6/2013	Director of Special Programs and Building Administrator, Sheridan, OR
6/2002 - 6/2005	Classroom Teacher, San Bernardino Public Schools, San Bernardino, CA

* Name Changed from Pelt to Perez February 2020

Education:

Educational Doctorate (Ed.D.), George Fox University, Newberg, OR, 2016

Honors: Aldred Award for Outstanding Dissertation

Special Education Endorsement Coursework Lewis and Clark College, Portland, OR,

Gifted and Talented Education Certificate, University of California, Riverside, CA, 2004

Master's in Educational Administration, National University, San Diego, CA, 2003

Bachelor's in Behavioral Science, National University, San Diego, CA, 2002

Publications:

- *Equity in the Classroom: Dismantling Disproportionality in Special Education Through Anti-Racist Practices (Chapter) 2020 Contributor*
- *Ready Schools, Safe Learners 2020, Oregon Department of Education Co-Author*
- *COVID Scenarios in Schools, 2020 Oregon Department of Education Co-Author*
- *Learning Disabled Special Education Students and General Education Opportunities – Dissertation 2016*

Presentations

- *Oregon Association of Business School Officials - February 2024: Writing and Aligning the Budget Message.*
- *Oregon Association of School Executives - January 2024: Developing a Strategic Plan with Student Voice.*
- *What's Right in Education - October 2023: Starting the Journey: Developing the Strategic Plan, Scorecard, and Dreams for our Future.*
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I5DVpaXBgUk&list=PLfuUQxRSVpGUqRWXUYxt9z_iejL8FlvCb&index=12
- *Oregon Special Education Conference - October 2023: Changes, Challenges, and Opportunities: Small District Service Model*
- *Oregon Association of School Executives - January 2023: Finding Alternatives to Suspension, Abbreviated Days, and Restrictive Placements*
- *Oregon Department of Education - September 2020: Specially Designed Instruction*
- *Oregon Department of Education - August 2020: Reopening Schools*
- *Confederation of Oregon School Administrators - October 2018: Including Students with Disabilities in General Education*
- *Confederation of Oregon School Administrators Keynote- October 2019: IDEA & Maintenance of Effort*
- *Early Learning Conference - November 2018: Inclusion and Equity for Students with Disabilities*
- *Confederation of Oregon School Administrators - October 2018: State Monitoring Practices for Oregon and Local School Districts*
- *Oregon School Boards Association: Newberg - Equity and Inclusion*
- *Confederation of Oregon School Administrators - June 2016: Effectively reducing the gap for students in poverty*

Professional Experience:

Superintendent, Central Linn School District, Halsey, 12/2021 - present
Responsible for the oversight of the School District: Instruction, Principal and Director Supervision, Operations, Human Resources, Technology Services, Facilities, Safety, Nutrition Services, and Transportation.

Adjunct Professor, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 12/2023 - present
Taught graduate-level courses to students working towards professional licensure for Central Office or Superintendent roles: courses included Oregon School Finance and School and Federal Policy.

Executive Consulting for Special Education Directors, 1/2021 - present
Provide executive coaching, support, strategic plan development, and consultation for topics related to special education, Section 504, placement of students with disabilities, and abbreviated days.

Assistant Superintendent, Central Linn School District, Halsey, 3/2021 - 12/2021
Provided supervision of instruction Special Education services, principal supervision, transportation, and facilities. Advised the School Board and Superintendent on legal issues related to students who experience disability.

Assistant Superintendent, Oregon Department of Education, Salem, 2018 - 2021
Responsible for the oversight of the State of Oregon's Student Services and Federal Programs Offices. Managed a 134-million-dollar IDEA budget and 110-million-dollar ESSA budget to align with state priorities, maintain fiscal responsibility, and support ongoing initiatives.

Adjunct Faculty, George Fox University, Newberg, 2018-2020
Co-taught graduate-level courses to students working towards further professional learning: courses included Special Programs at the District Level. Developed curriculum and project-based assessments for students.

Supervising Teacher, Grand Canyon University, Salem/Newberg 2018-2020
Supervised student-teacher candidates in educational programs including general education math, Special Education, Spanish, and Language Arts. Provided mentoring, support, lesson-plan development, and training.

Director of Elementary and Special Programs, Newberg School District, OR, 2013-2018
Supervised Elementary Principals, led districtwide Special Education and Elementary instruction, and supported secondary principals. Maintained a 1.2-million-dollar budget, allowing equitable focused spending aligned with goals.

Special Programs Director/School Administrator, Sheridan School District, OR,
2005-2013

Managed federal programs including Title II, III, IV, X, and Special Education. Administrator for various buildings in the district including Charter School, Alternative High School, and Middle School, with duties including curriculum development, program adjustment, and transitioning towards Common Core instruction.

Classroom Teacher, North Park Elementary School, San Bernardino, CA. 2002-2005

Taught core curriculum to students in grades 4-6; planned and implemented creative lesson plans. Established and taught classes in reading and writing for severely struggling 5th and 6th-grade students.