

## PETER HILTS

### EDUCATION:

The University of Phoenix	Doctoral Candidate (Ed.D.)	ABD-Dissertation in progress
The University of Phoenix	Colorado Principal Licensure	February 2006
The University of St. Thomas	M.A. – Teacher Preparation	June 1999
The University of St. Thomas	Minnesota Teacher Licensure	September 1991
Biola University	B.A. – Social Science	May 1988

### EXPERIENCE IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

#### **Chief Education Officer** at Falcon School District 49

June 2013-Present

As the Chief Education Officer, I am the senior member of the leadership team (along with a COO and CBO) reporting directly to the Board of Education. I oversee all education activities in a district serving 25,000 students. My oversight responsibilities include School Accountability; Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; Special Education; Human Resources; Communications; School Safety; Professional Development; and all aspects of instructional technologies.

#### **Director of Academic Services** at The Classical Academy in Colorado Springs

January 2012-June 2013

As Director of Academic Services, I am the senior educational leader at TCA. I supervise seven principals along with the Directors of Character Education, Instructional Philosophy, and Student Support Services. In addition to developing the leaders of our K-12 schools, I coordinate the efforts of our school and instructional leaders with the financial, operational, and human resources departments.

#### **Director of Strategic Programs** at The Classical Academy in Colorado Springs

January 2010-December 2011

As the founding director of an innovative school combining concurrent college enrollment with a hybrid online program, I conceived, staffed, and directed the only online school in Colorado to win the John Irwin designation and the Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award. Known as College Pathways, the blended school serves over 500 students, with 97% of our students earning a grade of C or better while enrolled in college courses. I led the school from a literal blank slate to a fully staffed, newly constructed, high-performing school in less than 18 months.

#### **High School Principal** at The Classical Academy in Colorado Springs

August 2003-December 2009

As principal of the state's largest charter High School, I led a staff of 75 teachers, principals and other support staff responsible for developing the mind, body and spirit of 550 students in grades 9-12. I held direct responsibility for managing budgets, technology support, curriculum leadership and co-curricular activities. I pioneered the creation and implementation of an online-classroom hybrid program for high school students and developed TCA's high school to be the top-rated high school in Colorado.

**Director of Technology and Information Services** for the Manitou Springs School District

July 2001-July 2003

As the district leader for technology and information, I directed the team responsible for the purchase, installation and support of all technologies that serve communication and learning. This included the administration of a six-site voice and data network, in-house email services, parent-access to our student information system, and installation of multiple computer labs and classroom technology suites.

**ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP**

**Educational Consultant** for schools and districts in the U.S. and Latin America:

1995-Present

In this role, I support education organizations as they enhance their capacity for effective change. My emphases include effective facilitation strategies, optimal professional development and aligning operations to a coherent vision, mission and statement of principles. Under grants funded by the U.S. Department of State, I conducted needs assessments, professional development, and strategic planning sessions at independent schools throughout Mexico, Central America, the Caribbean, and Colombia. I also provide professional development for independent and charter school teachers on the topics of interdisciplinary and standards-based instruction and assessment.

**Hearing Officer** for public, charter and private schools in Colorado:

2006-Present

As a hearing officer, I conduct assessments and hearings and prepare reports related to expulsion hearings for students in Colorado. As part of my service in this role, I may consider the results of disciplinary actions by administrators, manifestation hearings by school staff, and other factors related to the administrative recommendation for expulsion. The general output of my role is a report recommending that the school board uphold or reject the administrative recommendation.

**Practitioner Faculty** at The University of Phoenix: Southern Colorado Campus

April 2002-December 2011

As a faculty member in the graduate school of education, I am responsible to design and deliver instruction to students in teacher licensure and Master of Arts in Education programs. My primary emphasis is on educational technology, and instructional design; including standards-based instruction, distance learning, and assessment methods.

**Upper School Director at Cape Fear Academy**, Wilmington North Carolina:

2000-2001

As the high school principal at a PK-12 independent school I held responsibility for curriculum and staff leadership in the upper division. In that structure I had full responsibility for all aspects of the upper school, including student life; curriculum, instruction and assessment; budgeting; and personnel recruitment and retention. I participated in the human resources and staff development programs at the national Association of Independent Schools (NAIS).

**Interdisciplinary Specialist** at The School of Environmental Studies, Apple Valley Minnesota:

1995-1999

I teamed to provide curriculum planning, instruction and assessment for an interdisciplinary and thematic program integrating Social Sciences, Literature, and Environmental Science. In 1999, the U.S. Department of Education honored our school as one of ten New American High Schools.

## **SELECTED PUBLICATIONS and PRESENTATIONS**

- Hilts, P. F. (2011) Seven Stages of Aspergers Awareness—From Ignoring to Embracing at [aspergersexpert.blogspot.com/2011/04/seven-stages-of-asperger.html](http://aspergersexpert.blogspot.com/2011/04/seven-stages-of-asperger.html)
- Hilts, P. F. & Cohen, B. A. (2001). Resetting the table: a balanced diet of thought-filled integration. In A. L. Costa (Ed.), *Developing Minds* (pp. 262 ff). Alexandria: The Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.
- Hilts, P. F. (Ed.), (1999). *Coherent approaches to interdisciplinary and thematic learning: the implementation guide*. Produced in collaboration with the Tri-Association of American Schools of Central America, Colombia—Caribbean, and Mexico for The Office of Overseas Schools: The United States Department of State.
- Hilts, P. F. (Ed.), (2003) *Leadership for change: a multimedia resource on ten best practices for leading change in educational organizations*. Produced in collaboration with the Tri-Association of American Schools of Central America, Colombia—Caribbean, and Mexico for The Office of Overseas Schools: The United States Department of State.
- Lead Like an Alaskan: How the Great Land Teaches us to Lead with Purpose, Significance, and Joy*: Keynote address at the Spring Leadership Conference of the Alaska Association of Student Governments, April 10-14, 2012 in Kodiak, Alaska
- Living With Purpose: how the freshman year of high school establishes lifetime patterns of balance and achievement*: a keynote and following sessions. September 17-19, 2008 at The Gathering Ministry Center, Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- Three Sessions: *Students On School Boards—A Working Model For Large School Districts; Why Your Next Superintendent Should Be A Team Of Experts; Legal Cannabis On Your Campus—Are You Ready?* at the 2017 annual conference of the National School Boards Association, Denver, CO
- Go Vertical!—How educator conversations align contents, skills and assessment K-12*: a keynote presentation. November 21, 2006 at Go Vertical! A professional development conference for charter schools, Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- Strategic Compensation: Overcoming the failings of pure merit pay*: a breakout session. June 24, 2008 at *Still We Rise*: the annual educator’s conference of the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Life Cycle Leadership for Charter Schools*: a breakout session. May 9, 2008 at the Colorado League of Charter Schools annual Board Members’ Conference, Breckenridge, Colorado.
- The Influence of Honor*: a breakout session. October 20, 2006 at the Center for Academic Integrity annual character conference; The University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado.
- Making Performance Assessments Perform*: a professional development series for teachers at international schools in Latin America. February 14-16, 2002 at The Columbus School, Medellín, Colombia.