

■ Objective

To lead and inspire others. To contribute to innovative approaches in teaching and learning. To support the academic success of all children. To learn and to grow.

■ Education

Doctor of Education / Educational Leadership / University of South Florida / 2011

Master of Education / Educational Leadership / University of South Florida / 2002

Bachelor of Arts / English / Florida Atlantic University / 1994

Bachelor of Science / Journalism / University of Florida / 1991

■ Publications:

- **Author / Book:** *The Instructional Soul: Leading Schools with a Spirit of Innovation* / Publisher: Rowman and Littlefield / 2019
- **Author / Guest Column:** *How Educators Can Make Technology a Tool for Digital Equity* / Learning.com / Equip magazine / 2020
- **Creator / Blog:** *Instructional Soul / Innovative Approaches to Teaching and Learning* / www.instructionalsoul.com / 2017

■ Honors / Awards

Principal Achievement Award for Outstanding Leadership / Pinellas County Schools / District winner / State award nominee / 2015

High School Administrator of the Year / Music Educators Association / 2013

High School Administrator of the Year / Media Specialists Association / 2012

Teacher of the Year / Finalist / Martin County High School / 1998

Teacher of the Year / *Regional winner / State award nominee* / Florida Scholastic Press Association / 1996

First-Year Teacher of the Year / District winner / Martin County Schools / 1995

Recent Positions

Chief Academic Officer / Pinellas County Schools / Florida / 2022 to 2024

Oversaw all instructional departments and initiatives for Pinellas County Schools, the 29th largest school system in the nation. The school district had more than 95,000 students and 130 school sites. Managed an annual budget of more than \$40 million, and a division of 200 dedicated instructional leaders and specialists. Developed all district curriculum and training across all core and elective subject areas, including career and technical education, advanced studies, STEM, and ESOL. Represented the Superintendent of Schools at various community events and School Board meetings. Led various strategic initiatives, including a district-wide shift to a more applied, hands-on curriculum, a redesign of district middle schools, and focused professional development in high-yield instructional strategies.

Accomplishments:

- Led district Teaching and Learning Division to highest achievement scores in reading, math, and science in district history. As a result, Pinellas earned an A grade from the state for the first time in its history. District achieved its highest ever 3rd grade reading scores, and reached its highest rank among Florida districts across all subject areas.
- Created new professional learning collaborative in partnership with various departments to ensure teacher voice, empower teacher leadership, and promote innovative instructional practices.
- Expanded student athletics, rec sports, and academic competitions in support of a whole-child approach to learning.

Deputy Superintendent of Instructional Services / Manatee County Schools / Florida / 2021 to 2022

Oversaw all district academic initiatives and instructional services for the Manatee County School District. The district has more than 50,000 students and 60 school sites. Led all district departments for curriculum and assessment, professional development, and student support.

Accomplishments:

- Established new MTSS systems and districtwide training in support of improved student outcomes, data tracking, and conditions for learning.

Executive Director of Assessment, Accountability, and Research / Pinellas County Schools / Florida / 2015 to 2021

Oversaw data analysis, strategic planning, assessment, and research for the Pinellas County School District. Led the strategic evaluation of all district initiatives in support of the District Strategic Plan, and managed assessment decisions, data dashboards, and all strategic reports.

Accomplishments:

- Established ongoing convenings of our district's top teachers to identify best practices that are impacting achievement.
- Designed, coordinated and managed the district's first strategic plan to address racial achievement gaps.

Previous Positions Held

■ **Principal / Hollins High School / Pinellas County Schools / Florida / 2010 to 2015**

Oversaw an instructional staff of more than 90 teachers and a support staff of more than 30 clerical, cafeteria, and plant operations employees in service of a student body of more than 1,700. Served as the school's educational leader in setting vision around innovative instructional changes and related best practices in secondary education.

Hired as principal in 2010 at the request of the Superintendent of Schools after the school earned a D grade for seven consecutive years and was placed under state watch as a "turnaround school." During my five years as the principal, the school received four C grades and a B grade for the first time in school history. The school was removed from the state's watch list in 2012, and all school data points increased to their highest levels in nearly a decade, including reading and math proficiency, graduation rate, and college readiness indicators.

Named as the district's nominee for the state's *Principal Achievement Award for Outstanding Leadership*. Asked to participate in the *Commissioner's Leadership Academy*, a prestigious organization of the top educational leaders in the state of Florida.

Assistant Principal for Instruction / Osceola High School / Pinellas County Schools / Florida / 2006 to 2010

Served as the school's primary literacy leader and staff trainer. Oversaw the implementation of the school's new fundamental magnet program. During the four years there, the school grade increased from a D to an A.

District Supervisor of Secondary Reading-ELA / Pinellas County Schools / Florida / 2004 to 2006

Oversaw all reading curriculum and support for the district's 23 middle schools and 17 high schools, which includes more than 60,000 students and 200 reading teachers. Directly responsible for the hiring and training of the district's 40 literacy coaches, all district literacy training, materials, assessment, and data management. Regular presenter at school trainings, district workshops, and state literacy conferences.

English Teacher / Pinellas Park High School / Pinellas County Schools / 1999 to 2004

English Teacher / Martin County High School / Martin County Schools / 1994 to 1999

Taught high school English for 10 years and specialized in helping students improve their writing skills. Served on a state *Florida Writes* committee and offered many school and district trainings on techniques to improve student performance on state writing and reading tests. After a year as the lead teacher-trainer at Pinellas Park High, 63 students made a perfect 6.0 on the state writing test (the most in school history and up from only six students the previous year). Promoted later that year to district Supervisor for Reading-ELA. Served as a literacy consultant for several years. Supported the literacy work in several high schools throughout Florida by training the school staff on literacy best practices and creative engagement techniques.

Adjunct Professor of Education / Various Courses / 2010 to 2024 / University of South Florida / University of Florida / Stetson University

■ Comments / Commendations

As the Chief Academic Officer, score a perfect appraisal rating by the Superintendent. Rated as Highly Effective overall and scored as “innovating” in every domain and standard / 2024.

- **Appraisal Summary:** Dr. Evans has led the Teaching and Learning Division with tremendous success the last two years. He is retiring with academic achievement and the district grade at the highest points in district history. He is well-respected with internal and external stakeholders and his extraordinary leadership will be missed.

As a Principal, scored a 90 percent or higher each year on the district’s annual climate survey for all questions related to principal leadership, vision, and supporting a positive school culture / 2010 to 2015.

As a Teacher, earned a perfect appraisal score for every annual performance review / 1994 to 2000.

Email from an Assistant Principal when I was the Chief Academic Officer :

- I just wanted to send a quick note and let you know that your session at our district training was the highlight of the day for me. Your presentation was not only engaging it was inspiring and invigorating. As an educator, I was so excited about the learning possibilities to come stemming from your session. So, thank you for your time and know that you made a huge impact on me and our school team!

Email from Parent when I was a Principal:

- Two years ago, the Pinellas County School Board assigned my daughter to your school. We were happy to be with a school that was on a mission to become the #1 high school in Pinellas County. We have owned a business in the community for 25 years and knew that placing you at the helm of the ship it was going to happen...I can only say that our daughter’s time spent on campus with the administrative staff has been five star!

Email from Teacher when I was a Principal:

- I would like to say thank you and tell you how much I admire and appreciate you. I am entering my fourth full year as a teacher on Monday and I could not be happier. You took a chance on me and for that I am forever grateful. My life has changed in numerous ways, all of which are positive and rewarding. I look forward to our faculty meetings every year because your enthusiasm is contagious. You are a fantastic speaker, funny, energetic, sincere and supportive. I love hearing your stories and jokes! I find myself copying some of your mannerisms in my classroom and it always makes me smile. Thank you for giving me the freedom to find my way, learn, fail, win and run my program the best I can. I feel that I grow every year, as a teacher and a person, and will continue to do so under your leadership. I hope you and your family have a happy and healthy year ahead. Thank you again for all you do.

Email from a Teacher before she retired:

- As I begin my last two weeks with PCS, I wanted to reach out to you and thank you. I wanted to let you know that you inspired me. You found ways to motivate us to improve our teaching styles. You had meetings that were very valuable. You took an interest in the students and the teachers. I will never forget sitting down and analyzing my student’s scores at a PLC you had with the 9th grade team. That was the beginning of chasing better scores for me. You taught me how to analyze the scores and to think about how they could be improved. I was at a meeting the other day and several teachers said they didn’t even know their EOC scores. I was in amazement. They must not have had Dan Evans in their building at some point!

Presentations (recent):

- **New Educator Conference / Keynote** / Pinellas County Schools / 2024
- **Best Practices Teacher Convening / Speaker** / Pinellas County Schools / 2023
- **Invited Panelist** / *Education Week* EdMarketer Summit / Denver / 2019
- **Interviewed for Podcast** / *Master Leadership* podcast: ML163: Dr. Daniel Evans (Ed Leader and Author) / 2019

Presentation feedback from teachers:

- *Dr. Evans did a great job! Loved his humor!*
- *Fantastic speaker! Funny, energetic, and sincere.*
- *An uplifting and positive experience!*

Student feedback as an adjunct professor:

- *All I can say is "Wow." I learned and loved every second of this class.*
- *Dr. Evans is a credible source and a wonderful professor with great insight for future leaders in education.*
- *This has been the best class thus far. He deserves an A++!*
- *Excellent teacher! Probably the best teacher that I've ever had.*

Certifications

- Certified by the State of Florida in Educational Leadership
- Dual-certified by the State of Florida to teach both English (grades 6-12) and journalism (grades 6-12)

Dissertation

Secondary Principals at the Center of School Reform: Portraits of Leadership

- **Citation:** Evans, Daniel James, "Secondary Principals at the Center of School Reform: Portraits of Leadership" (2011). *Graduate Theses and Dissertations*. <https://scholarcommons.usf.edu/etd/3095>
- **Keywords:** Distributed Leadership, Phenomenological, Portraiture, Principal Leadership, Site-Based Management, Transformational Leadership



Professional Interests:

- Innovative School Design / Instructional Leadership
- Curriculum Development / Teaching and Learning
- Community Involvement / Poverty / Equitable Outcomes

Research Interests:

- Educational history High-Yield Strategies School reform
- Systems theory Curriculum design Organizational theory

Personal Interests / Hobbies / Passions:

- Poetry / music Graphic arts / design Camping / fishing

Social Media Platform:

- **Twitter / X:** @drdanielevans: 4,000 followers / **LinkedIn:** 2,000 followers

Professional References:

Mr. Kevin Hendrick, Superintendent of Schools

Pinellas County Schools
727-641-5589

Dr. Rita Vasquez, Executive Director of High School Education

Pinellas County Schools
727-430-2771

Dr. Autumn Frei, District Director of Research and Evaluation

Pinellas County Schools
631-664-7774

Other references provided upon request