

John Richard, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent

John Richard, Ed.D., returned to the Ohio Department of Education as deputy superintendent in early 2017. Richard previously served as a senior executive director and associate superintendent for the Department from 2013-2015.

Richard spent the first 10 years of his career as a classroom teacher. Over the next 20 years, he held positions such as assistant principal, principal, district human resources director, assistant superintendent, and superintendent in northeastern Ohio. As a school leader, he created options to help students succeed. Under his direction, the district started an Army ROTC program and an International Baccalaureate program. His district also created college options for high school students. While he was the superintendent of Perry Local Schools from 2005-2013, he saw steady gains in the district's performance.

The long-time education leader is passionate about quality education leadership. As an administrator, he was in charge of district planning and management. He is an experienced speaker and planner who effectively builds agreement among groups with diverse interests.

During his previous time at the Department, he led the review and revision of Ohio's Operating Standards for Schools and served as the Department's point person for the Academic Distress Commissions governing two Ohio school districts.

Most recently, he served as the associate executive director of the Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators, where he oversaw professional development for school principals statewide and was a frequent conference speaker.

Richard has a bachelor's degree from Mount Union College and a master's degree from Cleveland State University. He earned his doctorate of education in educational leadership from the University of Akron in 2006.

He and his wife live in the greater Columbus area. They have adult children, all graduates of Ohio public schools. When he is not working, he enjoys reading, hiking, running, biking and being outdoors.

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