

Pedro Martinez joined SAISD as superintendent in June 2015, bringing to the District a laser focus on improving academic achievement so that many more students are performing at higher levels and are well-prepared for college and career.

In his first State of the District address, in January 2016, he unveiled the [SAISD Blueprint for Excellence: Target 2020](#), which outlines the strategies that the District plans to use in achieving by the end of the 2019-2020 school year the [10 academic goals it has set](#). The plan is supported by five pillars: Academic Excellence, Talent Management, Culture Shift, Stakeholder Engagement and Fiscal Management.

Before coming to SAISD, Martinez was Superintendent-in-Residence for the Nevada Department of Education and was responsible for advising the Governor's office and the State Superintendent of Instruction on education policy decisions. Prior to that, he served as superintendent for the 64,000-student Washoe County School District, covering the Reno, Nevada area.

While in Washoe County, Mr. Martinez improved graduation rates and increased the percentage of students participating in and passing the Advanced Placement exam. He also previously served as Chief Financial Officer at Chicago Public Schools, the nation's third-largest school district, under the leadership of Arne Duncan, the former U.S. Secretary of Education. His employment history reflects that he is a data-driven leader with a strong financial background and in-depth knowledge of academic reform strategies.

Martinez has more than 20 years of experience in the private, nonprofit and public education sectors. He holds an MBA from DePaul University and a bachelor's from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He also is a graduate of the Broad Superintendents Academy.