

## Top Military, Education and Nonprofit Leaders Graduate from Broad Superintendents Academy

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LOS ANGELES – Top leaders from education, military, business, government and nonprofit backgrounds have graduated from the [2010 Broad Superintendents Academy](#), The Broad Center for the Management of School Systems announced today.

[The Broad Superintendents Academy](#) is a 10-month executive management training program run by The Broad Center for the Management of School Systems to prepare working CEOs and other top executives from education, military, business, nonprofit and government sectors to lead urban public school systems. Founded in 2002, The Broad (rhymes with “road”) Superintendents Academy is the only program in the country that recruits talented superintendent candidates from sectors outside of public education as well as stand-out career educators.

These 10 academy graduates join other [academy alumni](#) who entered the program with extensive experience leading organizations in various fields and have since taken on leadership roles in some of the nation’s largest and most challenging urban school districts. To date, graduates of the academy have filled 71 superintendent positions and 101 senior school district executive positions [nationwide](#), including 36 percent of all external superintendent openings in large urban districts in the past two years. Two-thirds of Broad Superintendents Academy graduates who have been serving as superintendents for three or more years are outperforming comparison groups in raising student achievement on state reading and math exams, closing achievement gaps and raising graduation rates.

“I am confident that these graduates have the skills, experience, commitment and drive needed to take on urban superintendent roles, and that they are well prepared to lead dozens, even hundreds of schools to raise student achievement and close achievement gaps,” said Thomas Payzant, Broad Superintendents Academy superintendent-in-residence and former superintendent of Boston Public Schools, which he led for 11 years.

Several members of the [2010 class](#) were serving in new roles while participating in the program:

- [John White](#), former executive director of Teach For America Chicago and Teach For America New Jersey, became deputy chancellor for the division of talent, labor, and innovation for the New York City Department of Education, where he works with Senior Deputy Chancellor [Shael Polakow-Suransky](#), a 2008 academy graduate.

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- [James Quezon Hammond](#), a seasoned education leader who previously led the Davis Unified School District, one of the highest performing in California, took on the superintendency of California's Ontario-Montclair School District.
- [Casey Wardynski](#), a retired Army colonel, became chief financial officer in Aurora Public Schools, Colo., working for Superintendent [John Barry](#), a retired major general and 2004 academy graduate who was recently named [Colorado Superintendent of the Year](#).

For a complete list of this year's class and biographies, please visit The Broad Superintendents Academy [website](#). The 2010 cohort marks the ninth class to graduate from the program.

Participants of the academy keep their current jobs and attend extended-weekend training sessions covering CEO-level skills in education, finance, management, operations and organizational systems. They study best practices and lessons learned from current and historical reform efforts in large urban American school districts, particularly those found to be most effective at improving student achievement and closing achievement gaps. The academy then helps place graduates in urban school districts and also provides extensive on-the-job support.

For more information, or to apply for the 2012 class, please visit [www.broadacademy.org](http://www.broadacademy.org).

**The Broad Center for the Management of School Systems** is a nonprofit dedicated to raising student achievement by recruiting, training and supporting executive talent from across America to become the next generation of urban school district leaders. The Broad Center is funded by The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation, a national venture philanthropy established by entrepreneur and philanthropist Eli Broad to advance entrepreneurship for the public good in education, science and the arts. For more information, please visit [www.broadeducation.org](http://www.broadeducation.org).

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