

LONNY RIVERA '91

Nominated by: Jeffrey Ziviski

I am nominating Lonny Rivera for the Clay High School Distinguished Hall of Fame. As an educational institution, Oregon School District should be proud to honor and recognize an accomplished Clay graduate such as Lonny Rivera. Lonny has achieved the highest position in this field by being named Interim Superintendent of Public Instruction for the Ohio Department of Education in January of 2016. Lonny had been the Associate Superintendent prior to being named for the Interim role. During his time leading the Ohio Department of Education in both roles, Lonny focused on improving public policy for the benefit of achieving better K-12 educational experience for the children. He focused on school and district accountability, districts in academic distress and the teaching profession.

Besides leading the Ohio Department of Education, Lonny also led his Alma Mater district as Superintendent for 2 years, helping Oregon City Schools grow and focus more on the students of the district. He spearheaded a partnership with Mercy Health to put a community health center on the high school campus to improve student health and reduce absences. Additionally, focused on opportunities for clay graduates who did not see traditional college as an option and helped develop a career technical program for engineering that fits the industry's needs.

In general, Lonny has overcome many obstacles in his life but never gave up and continues to be a leader in the education field. Lonny grew up the son of a migrant worker and overcame the stigma of being a minority. Not only did he achieve the highest educational position in the State of Ohio, but he also led his hometown district as superintendent and served as an elementary principal in the district early on in his career. He continues to be a leader in the field by recently being named the new superintendent of Perkins Schools, after being the Director of Innovation for North Point ESC for the past 9 years.

Lonny is a mentor and role model for many, and Oregon City Schools and Clay High School should be honored to add Lonny Rivera to its Distinguished Hall of Fame as the most prolific and accomplished graduate in the education field.

Below are articles or news highlights that not only help tell the story of who Lonny is but how he brought positive publicity to Oregon City schools. Additionally, I have attached his Curriculum Vitae.

https://www.cleveland.com/metro/2015/12/rivera_lands_interim_state_sup.html

<https://www.dispatch.com/story/news/education/2015/12/15/school-board-names-interim-state/23336779007/>

<https://www.daytondailynews.com/news/rivera-takes-over-state-school-superintendent/YSPb8w3anDVLWtzAppuXqM/>

<https://www.wtol.com/article/news/education/oregon-alum-selected-as-next-superintendent/512-81d49fd7-e391-4077-a16e-b3b1e873bf68>

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2015/dec/15/state-school-board-set-to-pick-interim-ohio-superi/>
<https://nbc24.com/news/local/oregon-city-schools-hire-new-superintendent>

LONNY RIVERA

A servant-minded leader who puts students first in decision-making. Focused on supporting classroom teachers and helping administrators become better leaders. Passionate about the importance of urban, suburban, and rural education with deep experience working on the unique challenges faced in these communities.

Experience

Superintendent- Perkins Local School District - August 2024 – Present

Director of Innovation - North Point ESC - Sandusky, OH - September 2016- July 2024

Leads various North Point ESC Regional networks to share best practices and develop new techniques. Certified Focus 3 facilitator. Conducts regular Professional Development opportunities related to Blended Learning, Rigor and Relevance, and Technology Integration. Responsible for the operation and supervision of a Summer Migrant Outreach program. Serves as the Family and Community Partnership Liaison for North Point ESC.

Associate Superintendent – Ohio Department of Education – Columbus, OH - June 2016 - Sep 2016

Interim Superintendent of Public Instruction- Ohio Department of Education- Columbus, OH January 2016-June 2016

Supervised the operations of the Ohio Department of Education.

Worked with State and Federal Governmental leaders to inform and influence educational policy decisions

Associate Superintendent – Ohio Department of Education – Columbus, OH - April 2015- December 2015

Led teams focused on school and district accountability, districts in academic distress, and the teaching profession.

Assisted in building relationships in the Youngstown community to increase support for schools with significant academic challenges.

Worked to ensure that struggling districts received needed support from regional offices and partner organizations.

Superintendent – Oregon City Schools – Oregon, OH - August 2013-April 2015

Partnered with local organizations to put a community health center on the high school campus to improve student health access and reduce absences.

Focused on growing the Oregon City Schools Foundation, which raises support from alumni and other donors.

Helped develop a career-technical program to focus on engineering and meet the needs of local industry.

Principal – Wayne Trail Intermediate School – Maumee, OH - August 2010-July 2013

Led the consolidation of four schools into one and helped develop a “looping” system that would enable students to have the same team of teachers for both years at the school.

Chief of Staff – Toledo Public Schools – Toledo, OH - August 2008 – July 2010

Principal – Coy Elementary School – Oregon, OH - August 2003-July 2008

Principal – Sherman Elementary School – Toledo, OH - June 2000- July 2003

Assistant Principal – Sherman Elementary School - Toledo, OH - June 1999- June 2000

Dean of Students – Woodward High School – Toledo, OH - August 1998- May 1999

Special Education Teacher – Pickett Elementary – Toledo, OH - August 1996- July 1998

Education

August 2009

The University of Toledo – Doctor of Education – Educational Administration and Supervision

August 2000

The University of Toledo- Masters in Education- Educational Administration and Supervision

June 1996

Cleveland State University – Bachelor of Science in Education- Special Education

Licensure/Training

Superintendent – Expires June 2028

Special Education – K-12 – Expires June 2028

CSTAG Threat Assessment Certified Training Levels 1, 2, & 3-

Bridges out of Poverty Certified Trainer

Emotional Poverty 1 & 2 Certified Trainer

Certified SCRUM Master-

Memberships

Family Children First Councils- Erie, Huron, Ottawa, and Sandusky Counties

Business Advisory Councils- Erie, Huron, Ottawa, and Sandusky Counties

Erie County Community Foundation Voting Member

Ashland University Education Steering Committee

EHOVE Drug-Free Leaders