Dr. Rudy Crew

Dr. Rudolph F. “Rudy” Crew has made it his life’s work to overhaul and strengthen America’s public education system. His 30-year career has spanned from the classroom to the chancellorship of the nation's largest school district, New York City Public Schools.

Since 2009, he has been a professor in the Rossier School of Education at the University of Southern California. He also serves as president of the K-12 division of Revolution Prep, which seeks to use technology to improve math instruction and graduation rates in urban school districts.

Dr. Crew’s mission is to improve student achievement, especially for poor and minority students. To that end, Crew worked closely with all stakeholders, first in New York and then in Miami, to place those cities’ lowest-performing schools in virtual districts whose boundaries were defined by student need, not geography. New York’s "Chancellor’s District" schools and Miami’s "School Improvement Zone" schools both used research-based practices to accelerate the pace of student learning.

As chancellor of New York City Public Schools – the nation’s largest district, with a million students -- Dr. Crew led a number of reforms, including adoption of curriculum standards for all schools, elimination of tenure for principals, and the introduction of school-based budgeting.

In Miami-Dade County Public Schools, he strengthened math instruction and created paths for more English Language Learners and students of color and poverty to gain college entry with improved ACT and SAT scores. He also started The Parent Academy, which served more than 100,000 parents with course and workshops designed to help them support their students’ education.

In his career, Dr. Crew has served in leadership for diverse districts: in addition to Miami-Dade and New York, Boston, Sacramento, several smaller California districts, and Tacoma, Wash. He has led school reform initiatives for a private foundation, directed the Institute for K-12 Leadership at the University of Washington and has been a university professor. Early in his career, he was a teacher and principal in middle and high schools in Massachusetts and California.

Dr. Crew’s book, *Only Connect: The Way to Save Our Schools*, was published in 2007.

Crew has served on many boards, including the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts and the Public Education Network, and is the recipient of many awards, including the NAACP Educational Leadership Award, the Arthur Ashe Leadership Award, and the National Superintendent of the Year from the American Association of School Administrators in 2008.

He is a graduate of Babson College in Wellesley, Mass., and earned his master’s degree and doctorate in education from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

(See reverse for references and a timeline of his career.)

Career Timeline

TEACHER, 1972 to 1975

- Worchester Career Opportunity Program, Mass.
- Pasadena Alternative School, Calif.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR, 1975 to 1983

- Coordinator of magnet programs, staff development, Boston English High, Mass.
- Principal, San Antonio High, Claremont, Calif.
- Principal, Monroe Junior High, Inglewood, Calif.
- Assistant to Superintendent, Inglewood Unified School District
- Principal, Hawthorne High, Hawthorne, Calif.

SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

- Assistant Superintendent, Instruction and Personnel, Duarte, Calif., 1983-85
- Deputy Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction, Boston Public Schools, Mass. 1985-87
- Superintendent, Sacramento City Unified School District, Calif., 1989-93 (51,000 students)
- Superintendent, Tacoma School District, Wash., 1993-95 (32,000 students)
- Chancellor, New York City Public Schools, 1995-2000 (1,000,000 students)
- Superintendent, Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Miami, 2004-08 (356,000 students)

UNIVERSITY, PRIVATE, NON-PROFIT LEADERSHIP

- Executive Director, Institute for K-12 Leadership, University of Washington, Seattle, 2000-2001
- Director, District Reform Initiatives, Stupski Foundation, Mill Valley, Calif., 2001-04
- President, Global Partnership Schools, 2008-2011
- Revolution Prep: President, K12 Division, 2011 to present
- Professor of Clinical Education, University of Southern California, Rossier School of Education, 2009 to present