

## Building Bridges Metaphor



As you navigate the pages of this digital portfolio you will embark on my journey through the currents of the St. John' University Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership and Accountability. While exploring each folio you will capture the essence of what it truly means to be a doctoral student at St. John's University's Oakdale campus. Crossing the bridge from expert to scholar, one encounters the many challenges of evolving into a scholar. While the Personal and Professional folios have helped to keep me grounded, the Learner, Expert, and Scholar folios have guided me along the path towards fulfilling the requirements of this ambitious lifelong journey. The echoing resonance of crashing waves parallels the impediments one faces, while the continuity of the spiraling curve represents the calm that comes with wisdom. Although at times the journey was arduous, the wisdom found has led to enlightenment. There are endless possibilities that wait at the shore; it is my privilege to embrace every opportunity with confidence, courage, and hope.

Satisfying the requirements of becoming a scholar and completing the Doctoral Program at St. John's University is an ambitious pursuit; a pursuit I have dreamed about, and one that I am committed to fulfilling. I have been enrolled in the Doctoral Program for Educational Leadership and Accountability at St. John's University since September 2010. The St. John's cohort model provides a collegial, comfortable, and scholarly environment which allows doctoral students ample opportunities to engage in professional dialogue and collaborative group projects. Under the tutelage of the esteemed St. John's professors, I have strengthened my ability to articulate ideas, opinions, and theories with confidence and expertise. The faculty at St. John's University has motivated me to seek within myself the instructional leader that I am, and the Superintendent I aspire to become. Although at times, the doctoral journey is arduous, the wisdom gained has led to enlightenment. I know there are endless possibilities that lie ahead; it is a challenge and a privilege for me to embrace every opportunity with confidence, courage, and hope.

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