Educational Partnership and the Restart Program: Part 1, Fall 2011 by Michael Kohlhagen

An accomplished superintendent with a diverse background leading pre-kindergarten to 12th-grade learning institutions, Michael Kohlhagen currently serves as a School Improvement Specialist at the [Center for Educational Innovation-Public Education Association](http://www.thecei-pea.org/%E2%80%8E) (CEI-PEA) in New York City and will be involved in the reform efforts of designated Schools. A non-profit entity that channels its resources to build and bolster public school programs across the metropolitan area, CEI-PEA also maintains a prominent presence in several other cities throughout the country.

After carefully vetting a qualified pool of candidates, the New York City Department of Education recently selected CEI-PEA for a unique project aimed at improving the operational infrastructure of three persistently low achieving schools in New York. With faltering academic curricula and unsatisfactory student scores on state and federally mandated standardized tests, the schools chosen for “restart” stand to benefit markedly from the guidance and focus Michael Kohlhagen and his colleagues at CEI-PEA will provide. Functioning as an Educational Partnership Organization representing the best interests of students, teachers, administrators, and institutional affiliates, CEI-PEA was able to take part in this unique endeavor thanks to a grant extended by the federal government called “Race to the Top.”