

PHILIP MARTELL

National Security Analyst | Strategic Policy & Workforce Readiness Leader | Former Superintendent

Elizabeth, PA | 412-915-8202 | diamondbackone@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE PROFILE

National security analyst and strategic policy professional with 18+ years of executive leadership experience spanning public-sector governance, organizational strategy, finance, workforce development, and technology integration. Former superintendent offering a distinctive perspective on how cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, human capital, education, and economic competitiveness shape national readiness. Graduate training in global security and cybersecurity, current doctoral study in national security policy, and an established record of public commentary on China, cyber conflict, strategic competition, immigration as hybrid warfare, Arctic security, and the workforce foundations of national resilience. Known for translating complex policy challenges into practical strategies that strengthen institutional capacity, resilience, and long-term readiness.

STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

- Selected to participate in the White House K-12 Cybersecurity Summit and recognized nationally for advancing career-connected learning, credential attainment, and cybersecurity workforce pathways.
- Led River Valley School District in becoming the first public school district in the United States to partner with CompTIA Apprenticeships for Tech, advancing industry-aligned student pathways.
- Built one of the nation’s first comprehensive K-12 cybersecurity education pathways, later featured by Arizona State University for workforce innovation.
- Drove nationally recognized innovation efforts that earned Digital Promise League of Innovative Schools membership, AASA Lighthouse Demonstration System recognition, and School System to Watch designation.

CORE COMPETENCIES

National Security Strategy	Cybersecurity & Resilience	AI & Strategic Readiness	Workforce & Human Capital
Public-Sector Leadership	Finance & Risk Management	Governance & Policy	Interagency Collaboration
National Resilience	Technology Strategy	Strategic Communications	Analytical Decision-Making

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP & RECOGNITION

- Participated in the White House K-12 Cybersecurity Summit, “Back to School Safely: Cybersecurity for K-12 Schools,” focused on strengthening school digital infrastructure and cybersecurity preparedness.
- Recognized through White House workforce development initiatives for advancing career-connected learning, credential attainment, and work-based pathways.
- Featured by Arizona State University for establishing one of the nation’s first comprehensive K-12 cybersecurity education pathways.
- Led River Valley School District in becoming the first public school district in the United States to partner with CompTIA Apprenticeships for Tech.
- Advanced a nationally recognized STEAM Academy model integrating cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, career pathways, apprenticeships, and workforce readiness.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Faculty, School of International and Global Studies | Arizona State University | Tempe, AZ | May 2026 – Present

- Deliver executive-level instruction on global security, strategic competition, cybersecurity, and emerging technology issues shaping institutional and national readiness.
- Design and lead interdisciplinary coursework that integrates artificial intelligence, cyber risk, geopolitical analysis, and workforce strategy within contemporary international affairs.
- Translate complex policy, technology, and security challenges into practical decision-making frameworks that strengthen leadership capacity and strategic thinking.
- Bring practitioner insight from executive leadership, public-sector transformation, and national security research to connect classroom learning with real-world cyber and AI-driven disruption.

Superintendent of Schools | River Valley School District (formerly Blairsville-Saltsburg School District) | Blairsville, PA | Jul 2020 – Retired June 2026

- Directed district strategy, governance, budget priorities, and operational planning to strengthen performance, organizational resilience, and long-term readiness in a complex public-sector environment.
- Built one of the nation's first K-12 cybersecurity and technology pathway models, aligning education policy with cyber workforce development, digital resilience, and long-term national competitiveness.
- Led nationally recognized innovation initiatives integrating cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, career-connected learning, and cross-sector partnerships with industry and higher education.
- Applied data-informed leadership and technology strategy to modernize systems, strengthen decision-making, and improve institutional adaptability in a rapidly changing digital environment.
- Forged cross-sector partnerships that expanded apprenticeships, workforce pathways, and real-world learning experiences tied to economic security.

Senior Government-Educational Consultant | ABM Building and Energy Solutions | United States Region | 2018 - 2025

- Advised K-12 and public-sector clients on customized energy and operational solutions that improved efficiency, infrastructure performance, and resource alignment.
- Collaborated with engineering teams and stakeholders to deliver energy-efficient systems on schedule and within budget.
- Generated more than \$150 million in sales while advising K-12 and public-sector clients on energy, infrastructure, and operational solutions.

Superintendent of Schools | Connellsville Area School District | Connellsville, PA | Nov 2015 - Jan 2018

- Led districtwide improvement efforts across operations, academic programming, and community engagement while navigating complex public-sector leadership demands.
- Oversaw budgets and strategic planning processes that strengthened organizational stewardship, accountability, and institutional stability.

Director of Finance and Operations | Wilkesburg School District | Wilkesburg, PA | Jan 2011 - Apr 2015

- Managed a \$15M budget, reduced costs by 12%, and improved resource allocation across district operations.
- Implemented financial strategies that increased revenue by 8%, optimized cash flow, and strengthened reporting systems.

Assistant Business Manager and Director of Human Resources | West Mifflin Area School District | West Mifflin, PA | May 2007 - Dec 2010

- Managed human resources operations, payroll, policy implementation, employee relations, and conflict resolution.
- Developed HR policies using data-driven insights to improve engagement, retention, and organizational efficiency.

EDUCATION

Doctor of Public Policy (D.P.P.), National Security Policy — Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA (Aug 2025 - Present)

Master of Arts & Science, Global Securities and Cybersecurity — Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ (2021 - 2024)

Master of Education, Administration - Superintendent Letter of Eligibility — California University of Pennsylvania, California, PA (2016 - 2018)

Master of Science, Education and School Business Affairs — Wilkes University, Wilkes-Barre, PA (2007 - 2010)

Bachelor of Science, Secondary Education — Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA (1988 - 1992)

AWARDS, BOARDS & RECOGNITION

- League of Innovative Schools - Digital Promise, March 2024
- Innovative Educational Leadership Award - Pittsburgh Technology Council, January 2024
- Lighthouse Demonstration System - The School Superintendents Association (AASA), May 2023
- STEAM Community Leader Award - Saint Francis University School of STEAM, April 2023
- School System to Watch - The School Superintendents Association (AASA), December 2022
- CoSN (Consortium for School Networking) Driving K-12 Education Advisory Board
- Pittsburgh InfraGard Alliance Member (FBI-affiliated public-private partnership supporting homeland security and critical infrastructure protection), 2024 – Present
- WQED Cybersecurity Workforce Task Force, 2024 – Present

PUBLICATIONS, RESEARCH & NATIONAL SECURITY THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

- **America is Losing the Cyber War with China. It Won't Admit It's Fighting** — Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, April 9, 2026. Analysis of China's cyber strategy, critical infrastructure vulnerabilities, AI-enabled cyber operations, and U.S. national security.
- **The 'Trump Doctrine' Will Change America's Place in the World** — Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, March 12, 2026. Analysis of emerging U.S. foreign policy doctrine, strategic deterrence, and American power in a multipolar world.
- **Hostile Actors Manipulate Immigration to Harm America** — Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, February 22, 2026. Examination of immigration through the lens of hybrid warfare, national resilience, and strategic competition.
- **The Significance of Greenland** — TribLIVE, January 9, 2026. Analysis of Greenland's strategic importance to Arctic security, NATO defense, missile warning systems, and great-power competition.
- **Public Education Is Out of Date** — Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, April 20, 2026. Argument for moving public education beyond standardized testing toward workforce readiness, career-connected learning, and real-world outcomes.
- **Cyber Charter Funding Is Draining Our Schools** — Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, June 13, 2025. Commentary on Pennsylvania cyber charter funding reform, public education finance, and educational equity.
- **Featured Profile:** Arizona State University News, "ASU grad student establishes first comprehensive public-school cybersecurity curriculum," April 1, 2024.
- **Author, The Readiness Report (2026-Present):** Recurring commentary series examining national security, economic competitiveness, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, education, and workforce development as interconnected pillars of American readiness.

SELECTED LINKS & MEDIA

- **Saint Francis University School of STEAM — Educational Leader Award** | Video feature highlighting recognition for leadership in innovation and STEAM advancement. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=47-1AINd7gE>
- **Viewpoint with Dennis Quaid** | Featured segment profiling district innovation, workforce readiness, and educational transformation. https://resources.finalsite.net/videos/t_video_mp4_480/v1715714313/rivervalleysdorg/cpywuld81p2jim6jgfjz/RVSD_VIEWPOINT.mp4
- **White House K-12 Cybersecurity Summit** | Event recording documenting participation in the national summit on cybersecurity preparedness for schools. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GaH9oJdbQZk>
- **Philip Martell — Testimonial Video** | Video testimonial highlighting leadership approach, impact, and professional reputation. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zbsf_nK7728