

**Dr. John E. Harper Sr.**  
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**2015 - Present                      Chairman, Board of Directors  
   InnovEd USA**

InnovEd USA is a consulting and management company which provides a wide range of services in K-12 education and related fields. InnovEd USA is comprised of a group of dedicated educators who have decades of experience in the education industry. We have and will continue to strive to offer the best possible education opportunities for generations to come. We work with industry leaders to tailor and customize services to satisfy our customers' needs. InnovEd USA works with public, charter, and private schools in the United States and around the world.

**2011 - Present                      Adjunct Professor of Accounting  
   Texas A&M University at Commerce, Texas**

I developed and facilitate an innovative online graduate course in governmental and not-for-profit (NFP) accounting in the College of Business at A&M-Commerce. I also developed Comprehensive Master's Program Exam questions. This course prepares students for the Certified Public Accounting (CPA) exam and/or the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) exam. For more than four decades I have been responsible for the planning, programming, budgeting and reporting for large governmental and NFP organizations.

**2011 - Present                      Consultant and Advisor to the Board of Directors  
   Harmony Public Schools in Texas**

Harmony Public Schools in Texas are national award-winning, high performing K-12 public charter schools that focus on math, science, and computer technologies (STEM), beginning in the fourth grade, to prepare underserved communities for success in higher education. The first Harmony Academy was founded in Houston in 2000 by Turkish- American graduate students (now US citizens) seeking improved education for their community. There are 46 schools throughout Texas now and plans to add more. Current enrollment is more than 30,000 with more than 40,000 additional on a waiting list. The system budget exceeds \$225 million and employs about 3,300 faculty and staff. After completing an initial and comprehensive SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) analysis for the Board, I now provide advice and guidance to the Board of Directors regarding organization, community outreach, governmental affairs, and crisis communications. I have testified before the Texas Senate Education Committee and the Texas House Public Education Committee recommending to them the best practices of the Harmony Public Schools for implementation in Texas Independent School Districts. Harmony Public Schools received support from the Gates Foundation and were recently awarded \$30 million from the US Department of Education to expand the school system and to develop and share more "best practices" with other school systems.

**2010 - Present**            **Member, Board of Directors**  
**Better Business Bureau of Dallas, Texas**

I am an elected member of the Better Business Bureau of Dallas Board of Directors and serve on the Business Standards Committee. BBB-Dallas is the 2nd largest in the USA. The Business Standards Committee reviews new applications, renewal of memberships, and suspensions or revocations to ensure that BBB policy is fair, equitable, consistently applied and followed. The Committee also reviews current and projected financial performance.

**2007 - 2011**            **Elected Official - Mayor**  
**City of Rowlett, Texas**

The City (population - approximately 56,000 then) was recognized by CNN Money Magazine in 2010 as a Top 25 Best Small City in the USA! In 2009 the Texas State Comptroller recognized the City for its extraordinary efforts at transparency and accountability to Rowlett citizens. S&P increased the City bond rating in 2009. I was selected by the North Texas Commission to be in the Inaugural Class of Leadership North Texas, made up of regional leaders who have a commitment to civic engagement and dedicated to solving critical issues affecting North Texas' growth and economic development. While Mayor, served on the Governance Committee of the Dallas Regional Mobility Coalition (DRMC) and as an Alternate Member to the Metroplex Regional Transportation Council (RTC). Established and anchored a local news tv show: "Rowlett...on the Lake...on the Move!", and was a regular columnist for two local newspapers. I presented at conferences and civic clubs in Dallas, Rockwall, Collin, Hunt, and Kaufman Counties. Also elected Precinct Chair and, in addition, as primary voting delegate to several Rockwall County and then Texas State GOP conventions. I chaired the Rules Committee and served on the Nominations Committee.

**2006 - 2013**            **Consulting Chief Financial Officer**  
**The Cooper Institute, Dallas, Texas**

I served as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and Board Advisor for The Cooper Institute (501(c)(3)) in Dallas, Texas. The Cooper Institute does medical research and dissemination in association with The Cooper Clinic for the prevention of cardiovascular disease and obesity in adults and children. Established by Dr. Kenneth H. Cooper in 1970, The Cooper Institute conducts groundbreaking research on the relationship between exercise and health benefits. What began as a system of shoeboxes and index cards to record data from Cooper Clinic patients, has become the Cooper Center Longitudinal Study—the first, largest and most comprehensive database on health and fitness in the world. The database continues to be the foundation of research that influences public health policies and practices in the United States and abroad. I staffed the Board Audit Committee and the Board Investment Committee. I presented the proposed Annual Operating Budget to the Board Executive Committee. I participated in fundraising presentations for The Institute. I managed the Institute's voluntary adoption of the provisions of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. I led cost reduction efforts and internal long range planning teams as well as oversight of the preparation of a Strategic Technology Plan.

**2002 - 2006**                    **Registered Neutral**  
**Dallas - Fort Worth, Texas**

I was selected and served as a Neutral for the American Arbitration Association, providing alternative dispute resolution services (mediation and arbitration) to businesses and institutions in the Metroplex.

**1987 - 1991**                    **NASCAR Winston Cup Pitcrewmember**  
**Hendrick Motor Racing, Charlotte, North Carolina**

Was a "weekend warrior" for Hendrick crew chief Waddell Wilson and Team Owner Rick Hendrick. Traveled to 29 different tracks across the country each season in support of race car drivers Darrell Waltrip (1 year), Geoff Bodine (1 year) , and Ricky Rudd (2 years). Was in Winners Circle twice. Was responsible for setting up the pit stall before the Winston Cup race and then handling tires and gas during the race.

**1980-2007**                    **Higher Education Executive and Professor**

For more than two decades I served as a senior ranking executive and vice president/vice chancellor at:

Texas A&M University-Commerce, Texas Wesleyan University  
Houston Community College System, North Carolina State University  
Cuyahoga Community College District, Guilford Tech Community College  
Central Piedmont Community College System

Retired from the Texas A&M University System after more than 26 years of service in higher education at different colleges and universities in Texas, North Carolina, and Ohio. My Texas higher education experience includes Vice President and Treasurer at Texas Wesleyan in Fort Worth and Vice Chancellor for Administration at the Houston Community College System (4th largest in the USA), as well as Vice President for Business & Administration at Texas A&M University in Commerce. I also taught graduate students for both the Department of Economics & Finance in the College of Business and the Department of Secondary & Higher Education in the College of Education at A&M. I received an award for developing and delivering online graduate courses for doctoral students at A&M-Commerce. My past doctoral students have gone on to become vice presidents and presidents of higher education institutions. I received the National Outstanding Community College Business Officer Award. I served on the national AICPA Not-for-Profit Organizations Committee. I also served on several visiting Evaluation Committees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Commission on Colleges.

**1960-1980**                    **United States Air Force**

I served 20 years active duty in the US Air Force as both an enlisted man (SSgt) and as an officer (Major) during the Cold War and Vietnam War era. I was a combat crewmember and Russian linguist on an RC-135 reconnaissance aircraft. Less than 1% of all USAF enlistees

are selected for this critical duty. I spent most of my Air Force career in the intelligence command - Security Service (USAFSS). As an enlisted man I collected signals intelligence, communications intelligence, and electronics intelligence. My analyses were enhanced through the use of satellite technology. My expertise was Siberia (Murmansk to Vladivostok) where knowing the Soviet air order of battle was essential to protecting America. In addition, I monitored Soviet ICBM tests, flying from the North Pacific island of Shemya, Alaska. As an officer, I was involved in collecting human intelligence in northwest Turkey, where the Soviet fleet in the Black Sea was harbored. I have a service-connected disability as a result of my service. I received several military awards and decorations for valor and achievement. I was recognized as a 50-year "Pioneer" in Air Force Intelligence collection, analysis, and application and received the civilian Cold War Medal from the Secretary of Defense. I was asked to give an oral history of my experiences which were recently published in The History of the Big Safari Program. I remain involved with my intelligence colleagues via the Freedom Through Vigilance Association (FTVA) and the "Prop Wash Gang"...veteran recon flyers who go by the name of "Silent Warriors - Unarmed and Unafraid".

### **Education and Certifications**

Associate Degree - 1966 University of Omaha, Nebraska	Bachelor of Science <i>cum laude</i> - 1968 Syracuse University
Master of Arts - 1971 University of Alabama	Center for Creative Leadership - 1984 Greensboro, North Carolina
Institute for Education Management Harvard University - 1986	Doctor of Education - 1996 University of Houston
Certified Public Accountant (CPA)	Certified Management Accountant (CMA)
Beta Alpha Psi Honors Fraternity	Beta Gamma Sigma Honors Fraternity

### **Family**

I serve in the Veterans Mentor Network for veterans transitioning to civilian life and seeking employment, assisting with civilian resume preparation. Was selected to serve as Jury Foreman for a criminal trial in Rockwall County court. Am a past member of the Advisory Board for the Men of Honor & Ladies of Honor (MOH) in Rowlett, Texas. MOH provides Christian-based character education to boys and girls ages 11-17 in several states and countries. Debra and I also provide financial support for the Dalmatian Rescue Clinic of North Texas and other local charities. We have three grown children, nine grand children, and, very soon, four great-grandchildren. We enjoy spending as much of our time as possible at our "oasis" at Montecristo Estates in Cabo san Lucas, Mexico. John is also a Senior Contributor to TripAdvisor and serves on the TripAdvisor Survey Panel.