

Charles (Chuck) Malatesta, FORZA Education Management's CEO, was born and raised in Wilmington, Delaware and relocated to Florida in 2003.

Mr. Malatesta is a lifelong educator who has worked to improve education and learning throughout his career and at every level, as a teacher, coach, dean of students, assistant principal, university professor and administrator, principal, regional vice president of company operations, and founder of several charter schools. He has experience in private/parochial, traditional public, and charter school settings. Mr. Malatesta has held various positions and in all of them, he has been seen as a visionary, believing that every child has the right to the highest quality education and every parent should have a choice for their child's education.

Mr. Malatesta first felt a passion for education when he was a high school student at Salesianum School in Wilmington, Delaware. Mr. Malatesta believed students moved through schools without authentic care or attention and without their own unique gifts, talents and interests being fostered. Overcoming childhood cancer, he emerged into adulthood with a dogged determination to make a difference in education, something he is currently reflecting on in a book that he is authoring.

Mr. Malatesta distinguished himself in high school as a student athlete. It was at Salesianum where he began to exercise his abilities as a leader. He was elected captain of the swimming team, which he led to three State Championships in four years and three First Team All-State selections.

After graduation, Mr. Malatesta pursued his education at Florida Atlantic University, where he was awarded a swimming scholarship and majored in history education. He later transferred to the University of Delaware, where he earned his Bachelor of Science in Health and Exercise Science.

Subsequently, he began teaching and coaching at Archmere Academy and then the Charter School of Wilmington, where he was recognized as State and National Swim Coach of the Year in 2000.

His love of education propelled him further ahead as he earned a Master's Degree from Wilmington University in Educational Leadership/ Administration in 2003. It was at the Charter School of Wilmington where he witnessed the significant benefits of the charter school learning environment and the importance of giving parents a choice in their child's education.

Mr. Malatesta served as dean of students for Bishop Verot High School (Fort Myers, FL), a university administrator for the College of Education at Florida Gulf Coast University (Fort Myers, FL) and St. Petersburg College (St. Petersburg, FL). He has opened and was the principal of two charter schools in Tampa, FL and assisted in the application process for an approved charter high school.

Mr. Malatesta was a regional vice president for a large management company and was responsible for establishing and enhancing relationships with school district personnel, reviewing areas of need for potential new charter schools, building acquisitions, overseeing all schools in the region, including each school's academic performance and all operations and financials.

Mr. Malatesta opened FORZA Education Management in 2013 and has since opened and continues to operate three large-scale K-8 charter schools and four private preschools serving 3 and 4-year-olds. He brings value-added and experiences to FORZA and firmly believes that "All Children Can Learn" and be successful when taught by a highly qualified caring staff within a quality charter school learning environment.