Neil has held many school leadership positions for the past twenty-two years. He is currently finishing his eleventh year at Port Byron Central School District as superintendent. Prior to Port Byron, Neil worked in the Fairport, Gananda, LeRoy and Gates Chili school districts in the Rochester area. Besides his work as a school administrator, Neil has been active in statewide organization. He is currently president of both, the New York State Council of School Superintendents (NYSCOSS) and Leadership for Educational Achievement Foundation (LEAF).

Neil O'Brien is originally from Yonkers, NY where he attended school #15 and eventually graduated from Iona Prep. He went on to earn degrees and certificates from St. John Fisher College and SUNY Brockport. He and his wife Dr. Lynn O'Brien, a full professor at Nazareth College, reside in Throop, NY and have two daughters. His oldest daughter, Maggie, is a graduate of Bucknell University and currently resides in Boston working as analyst for a consulting firm. The youngest daughter, Caitlin, is in ninth grade at the Port Byron School District.