In March 2003, the Economic Development Board (EDB) identified an opportunity to create an education-related enterprise to supplement our nation's vision of becoming the leading education hub in Asia. Leveraging on the strong network connections that Academy of Principals (Singapore) has built with senior educators and relevant government authorities, PAI was established at end of 2003 as an enterprise arm.

- 14 November 2003: Incorporation of PAI as a Joint Venture between Academy of Principals (Singapore) and Economic Development Board of Singapore.
- June 2004: Commencement of Principal Academy Certification Test (PACT), a centralized admission testing for international students.
- 8 Nov 2004: Official announcement by Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Minister for Education, about the establishment of PAI.
- June 2005: Establishment of PAI's Advisory Council comprising of senior educators, many of whom are current or former school principals.
- June 2006: EDB's divestment of PAI, which leads to its status as being a wholly-owned private entity of APS.
- 27 September 2006: MoU signed with Korean Digital Herald, leading to the establishment of PACT-Korea
 - July 2007: Zhengzhou Visit
- August 2007: Launch of the School Placement Exercise for Returning Singaporeans (SPERS JC/MI)
- 6-10 July 2009: Organizer of 9th World Convention of the International Confederation of Principals 2009 Exhibition (ICP 2009)
- 4-6 March 2010: Inaugural Exhibition of International Conference on Teaching and Learning with Technology 2010 (iCTLT)
 - January 2010: Signing of MoU with Scholastics
 - May 2010: Signing of MoU with Massy University, Core Education and Learning Media
 - 8 December 2010: Signing of MoU with University of Edinburgh
 - 4 June 2010: Inaugural Lesson Study Symposium for Teachers
 - January 2011: Signing of MoU with Twig-It
 - 28 October 201: Signing of MoU with Auckland UniServices
- 9 May 2011: Launch of General Ability Test (GAT), a testing platform for schools that require psychometric testing for their Direct Admission Scheme (DSA) applicants.
- February 2012: Signing of MoU with the University of Helsinki, Turku, Tampere and Eastern Finland