



Create your own career path

New possibilities are emerging for many teachers who want to take on leadership roles but don't want to move into a principalship or central office position. There are a range of new teacher leadership roles, where teachers are connecting to other educators and making contributions to the field on state, national, and global scales, all while remaining in the classroom.

Use the questions on the next page to explore and brainstorm possible activities and opportunities that extend your work, roles that make your work more visible, projects that you are passionate about, and the structures and supports that would make such opportunities viable. Working with a team or on your own, use these reflections to determine your next steps in advancing your leadership agenda.

MORE FROM METLIFE'S SURVEY

■ Current teacher leaders are more interested than other teachers in becoming a principal or in a hybrid teaching role.

■ Interest in a hybrid teaching role is higher among mid-career teachers, high school teachers, and those in urban schools or schools with high proportions of low-income students.

■ Interest in becoming a principal is more common among new and mid-career teachers, high school teachers, or those in urban schools.

Source: MetLife, 2012.

EXPLORE THE OPPORTUNITIES

What other roles, responsibilities, activities, or projects outside the classroom interest you as you consider your career pathway?



What deeper skillsets would you like to pursue and how will they help you on your journey?



What types of opportunities for expanding your influence are available to you?



What types of opportunities are not currently available that you would like to see available?



How can you make the connection from your interests to student results?



How can you make the connection from your interests to other benefits for the school?



Who has a vested role in your interests and how can they assist you?



Who shares your desire for positive change in your areas of interest? How can you engage them as partners?



What models do you see that might offer lessons for you?



What steps can you take to make teachers more visible as leaders to influence change and impact your school or district's culture?

