



Introducing the Learning Guide



Facilitated by Frederick Brown & Tracy Crow

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Today's Outcomes

- Describe the rationale for and uses of The Principal Story Learning Guide.
- Model the process of completing one activity from a learning unit in the guide.



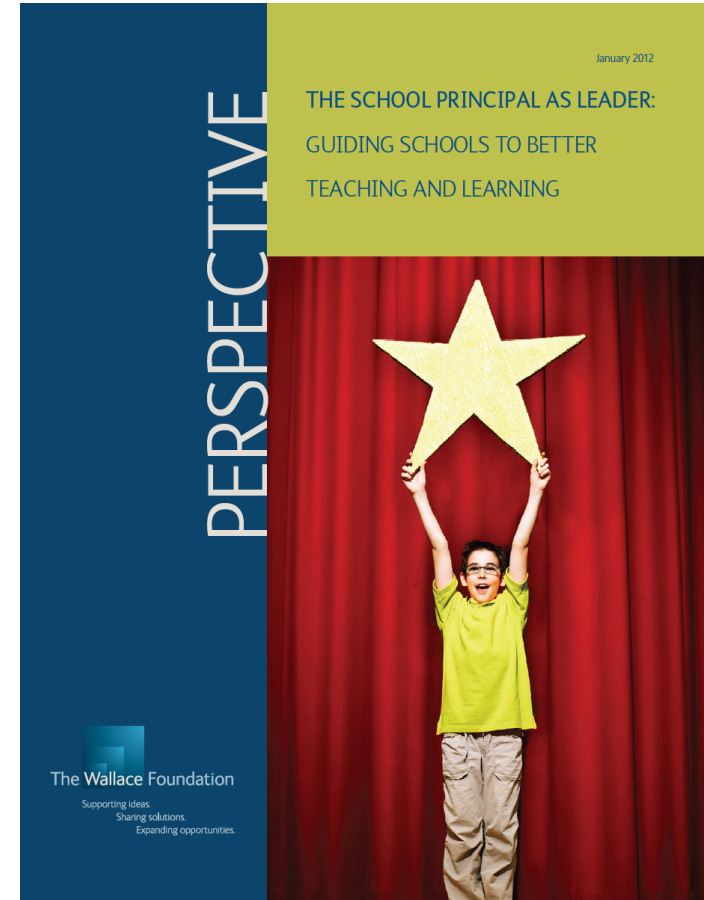
Opening Reflection

Introduce yourself and share your role in supporting school leaders.



The Principal Story Learning Guide

- Builds on 13 years of work with school districts and extensive research on education leadership.
- Can augment pre-service and in-service principal training with flexible, multi-media activities grounded in research.
- Conveys the five key practices of effective principals, previously shared in *The Principal as Leader*, in a new way.



5 Practices of Effective Principals

1. Shaping a vision of academic success for all students
2. Creating a climate hospitable to education
3. Cultivating leadership in others
4. Improving instruction
5. Managing people, data, and processes to foster school improvement





Standards for Professional Learning

Key Target Audiences

1. Those responsible for the initial training of aspiring principals (universities, non-profits, districts, etc.)
2. Principal supervisors
3. Assistant principals and principals seeking to extend their own learning



The Principal Story

Learning Guide



To advance the professional learning of aspiring and current school leaders



Search Publications

[The Principal Story Project](#)

[Facilitator Guide and Site Map](#)

[Clips from the Film](#)

[Related Resources](#)

Offered in collaboration with:



School leadership matters. During the past decade, there has been a growing recognition among educators and policymakers that school principals must be instructional leaders who ensure that high-quality teaching occurs in every classroom. This view is backed up by a solid [body of evidence](#) showing that leadership places second only to teaching among school-related influences on learning.

In culling lessons from 13 years of research that describes what effective principals do well, [The Wallace Foundation](#) has found they perform five key practices:

1. [Shaping a vision of academic success for all students](#)
2. [Creating a climate hospitable to education](#)
3. [Cultivating leadership in others](#)
4. [Improving instruction](#)
5. [Managing people, data, and processes to foster school improvement](#)

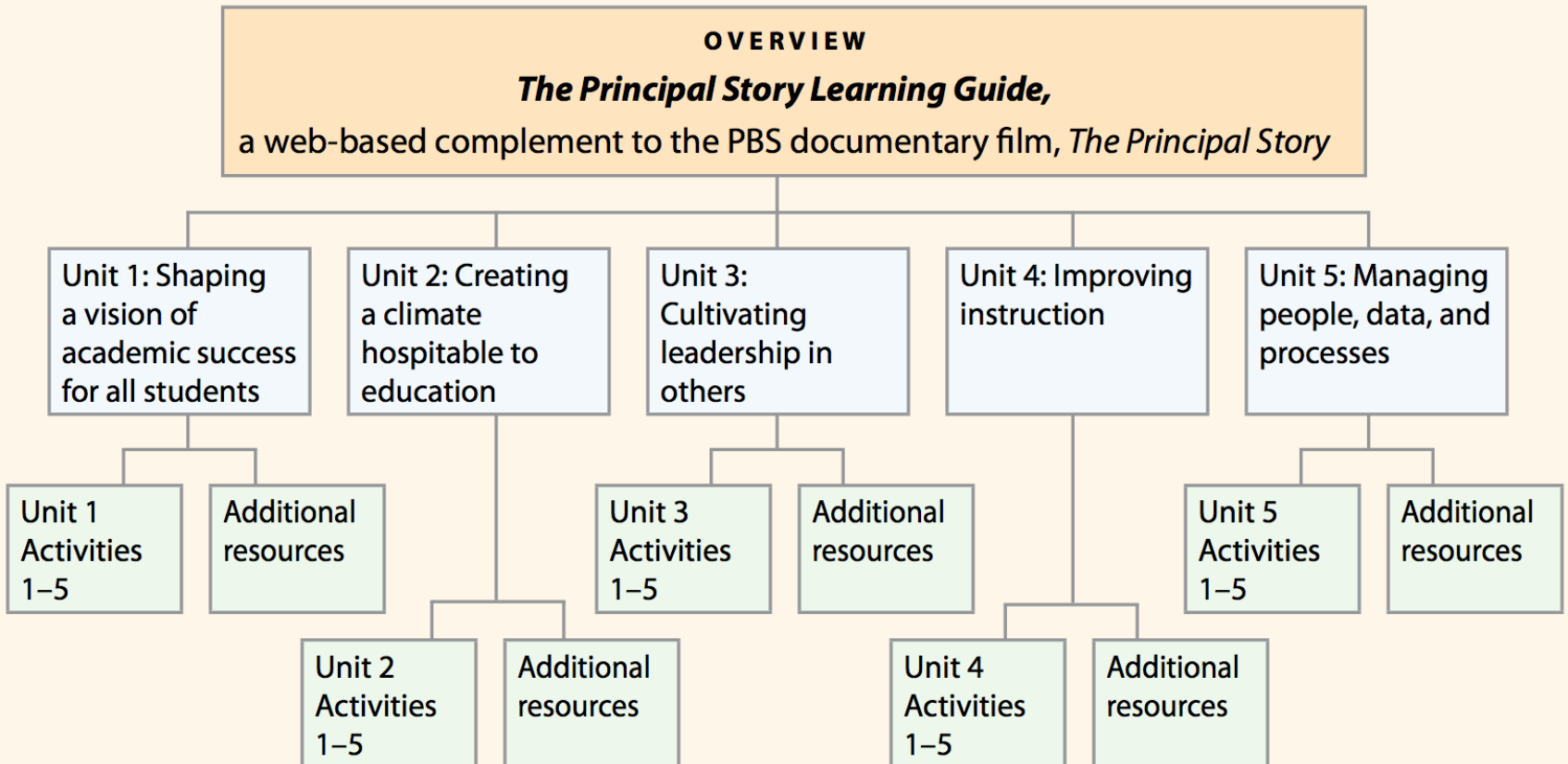
Learning Forward has developed this web-based professional learning guide using excerpts from the award-winning PBS documentary film, *The Principal Story*, to illustrate the five practices. The guide is intended to help those who prepare and support aspiring and current principals probe these essential practices. Use this [facilitator guide](#) to explore options for using these tools.

Watch excerpts from the film here and explore each practice below.

The Principal Story Learning Guide

Facilitator guide and site map

Site map



Reflection

What does it mean for principals to shape a vision of academic success for all students?



Watch the film clip

View a clip on sharing a vision of academic excellence to see research in practice. Use the [Big ideas chart](#) to guide independent note-taking while viewing.

In this clip, viewers meet principals Tresa Dunbar (Nash Elementary) and Kerry Purcell (Harvard Park Elementary) and learn about their schools. Ninety-eight percent of students at Nash and 87% of students at Harvard Park come from low-income families. Both principals articulate their vision for their schools and explain why they became principals. Tresa focuses on the challenges related to working with new teachers, and Kerry highlights the progress she and her staff have made in the improvement of student learning. *[Time: 2 minutes, 47 seconds]*



Reflection – Big Ideas Chart

The Big Ideas Chart asks...

- What big ideas are you taking away?
- What would you do differently?
- What questions emerged for you?
- What are implications for you as an aspiring school leader?





THE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING ASSOCIATION

www.learningforward.org

The Principal Story Learning Guide

Shaping a vision of academic success for all students

Unit 1, Activity 1: Discover personal assumptions

Purpose	To assess your own assumptions and actions about the practice of shaping a vision; discuss how personal attitudes and experiences relate to the principal's actions, behaviors, and choices observed in the film clip; determine implications of those assumptions for yourself and others.
Time	75 minutes
Required roles	Participants; facilitator

Questions?



Thank you!

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Upcoming Webinars

Oct. 9 – The Power of Teacher Rounds

Vivian Troen and Katherine Boles

Oct. 16 – Using Social Media in Professional Learning

Lyn Hilt and Lois Easton

