

powerful WORDS

“Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other.”

— John F. Kennedy

“Management is doing things right; leadership is doing the right things.”

— Peter Drucker

“Today a reader, tomorrow a leader.”

— Margaret Fuller

“The trust of the people in the leaders reflects the confidence of the leaders in the people.”

— Paulo Freire

LEADERSHIP BASICS



How Leadership Influences Student Learning, a review of research supported by The Wallace

Foundation, established that the quality of school leadership is second only to that of teacher effectiveness in impacting student achievement. The report outlines three basics of successful leadership. Consider what these mean for different educational and organization contexts.

1 SET DIRECTIONS.

These leadership actions help colleagues develop shared vision and purpose. Compelling goals help professionals stay motivated and find their sense of identity within an organization.

2 DEVELOP PEOPLE.

Not only do individuals need a sense of purpose where they work, they need to develop their knowledge and skills to do the work. Successful leaders provide essential support to increase the capacity of others.

3 REDESIGN THE ORGANIZATION.

Effective leaders also attend to the culture and infrastructure of schools, districts, or organizations. Otherwise, organizational conditions can “prevent the use of effective practices” (Leithwood, K., Louis, K.S., Anderson, S., & Wahlstrom, K., 2004, p. 8).

Source: Leithwood, K., Louis, K.S., Anderson, S., & Wahlstrom, K. (2004). *How leadership influences student learning*. New York, NY: The Wallace Foundation. Available at www.wallacefoundation.org/knowledge-center/school-leadership/key-research/Pages/How-Leadership-Influences-Student-Learning.aspx.

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LEARNING FORWARD'S LEADERSHIP STANDARD

Professional learning that increases educator effectiveness and results for all students **requires skillful leaders who develop capacity, advocate, and create support systems for professional learning.**

Source: Learning Forward. (2011). *Standards for Professional Learning*. Oxford, OH: Author.

YOUR NEXT STEPS

While some educators intentionally develop their own leadership skills and qualities, others pick up leadership behaviors here and there or find that others have seen them as leaders for years. As you consider your leadership journey, use these questions on your own or with others to explore how you might take your next leadership steps or help others to do so.

My leadership journey started when I:

I believe others see me as a leader because I:

Some leaders who inspire me are:

The leadership qualities I admire most in others include:

The people or elements that have helped me grow are:

The leadership qualities I need to develop or enhance are:

A possible career or service opportunity that would help me grow is:

Supporting leadership growth in others is important because:

I help others nurture their inner leaders by:

“A leader takes people where they want to go. A great leader takes people where they don’t necessarily want to go, but ought to be.”

— Rosalynn Carter

“If one is lucky, a solitary fantasy can totally transform one million realities.”

— Maya Angelou

“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, you are a leader.”

— John Quincy Adams