

Chapter 1 : Principals Identify Top Ten Leadership Traits | Education World

10 Traits of Highly Effective Principals is a 'must-read' for any practitioner or aspiring principal needing direction, mental stimulation, or self-renewal. Principal Magazine, March/April "In all of the books I have read, this is far and away the best.

Search Principals Identify Top Ten Leadership Traits Education World surveyed 43 principals to learn what they consider essential traits of successful school leaders. Vision, trustworthiness and credibility, daily visibility, and a sense of humor were among the ten traits that topped the list! Principals comment on the most important characteristics of strong leadership! A clear vision allows you to focus energy on the most important things to do. It is also the fuel for my vision. If this is accomplished, the administrator will know his or her constituents, be aware of what is taking place in the building, and send the message to all that he or she is concerned. Those are three of the most important leadership traits, according to the Education World Principal Files P-Files principals. Forty-three Principal Files principals identified and sequenced in order of importance the ten qualities they felt were the most essential in strong school leaders. See the sidebar for survey results. Click here for more details about how the survey was conducted and for detailed survey results. Landsman-Yakin, principal at Belfry Montana High School, added, "The ship, of course, is the educational system, and the direction is as important as the ship. That is why I think having a vision is the most important quality of a strong school leader," he added. Well-made plans ensure the best trips and provide time for handling unforeseen obstacles. Has a stated vision for the school and a plan to achieve that vision. Clearly states goals and expectations for students, staff, and parents. Is visible -- gets out of the office; is seen all over the school. Is trustworthy and straight with students and staff. Helps develop leadership skills in others. Develops strong teachers; cultivates good teaching practice. Shows that he or she is not in charge alone; involves others. Has a sense of humor. Is a role model for students and staff. Offers meaningful kindnesses and kudos to staff and students. Being visible -- getting out of the office and being seen all over the school -- was the most frequently identified quality of a strong school leader. All but two of the 43 principals surveyed included this quality on their top ten lists. By being visible to all, everybody feels a part of the quest for education. I always make sure I get out of the office as frequently as possible, and then I visit my assistant principals and drag them around with me too! Right relationships follow from the appropriate right start. We forget that the operation of the school relies heavily on even the water boy carrying our vision throughout the entire system," added Crochet, of Genesis Alternative High School, in Houma, Louisiana. Once they own part of the decision-making process, then they shoulder some of the responsibility. Yet so many of us still cling to hierarchy and power. A school principal definitely needs a sense of humor to be successful, according to Jon Romeo, former principal at Mitchell Elementary School in Woodbury, Connecticut. A smile [accompanied by] a strong, stern look lets a person know something is unacceptable, and a grin and twinkle in the eyes helps those around us relax and perform to best of their abilities. Being a role model landed in the ninth spot on the top ten list. Although it might not have been numero uno, being a role model is the one quality Gail Graham feels most strongly about. You can set high standards; you can even laugh about the mistakes and get on with the job. However, if you really want things to be cooking, you must invest in your people and develop strong teachers who have a sense of purpose and a commitment to learning.

Chapter 2 : Ten Traits of Highly Effective Principals : Elaine K. McEwan-Adkins :

10 Traits of Highly Effective Principals is a 'must-read' for any practitioner or aspiring principal needing direction, mental stimulation, or self-renewal Principal Magazine, March/April I could hear the voices of some of the principals who were interviewed speaking to me.

Cross-posted at the Huffington Post: Effective Leadership in the Age of Reform. School improvement efforts rely heavily on quality leadership. Educational leaders are tasked with establishing a collective vision for school improvement and initiating change to spur innovation, ensure student learning, and increase achievement. Strong emphasized that the job of a principal, or school leader for that matter, is about making a difference in the lives of children. Leading and teaching is challenging work that requires a high level of understanding and patience. What do good principals do? The audience at the leadership institute identified what they perceived to be the top elements. These included the following items below where I have added some of my personal thoughts: Principals need to be able to communicate what the school is all about. Being a direct communicator is often lost during discussions on teacher performance. Principals need to be able to keep the focus on important initiatives and culture characteristics that have an impact on student learning and achievement. They establish accountability measures to hold teachers and students accountable for learning. Great principals see solutions, not just problems. Risky, but not too risky: Principals have to be willing to try new things and have a mindset to keep trying until improvement is the end result. They need a backstop of support that allows them to fail in these efforts. The most effective decision makers take risks, but do not bet the farm or take quantum leaps without knowing the end result. Manage by walking around: Principals that consistently walk around know the students, can better identify areas where teachers can improve, and set the tone for practices to be emulated throughout the building. The human factor is extremely important. Great principals establish a positive school culture by treating people the way they would like to be treated. How we smile, say hello, and engage in conversations all are important factors in setting a positive tone. Strong principals will do the hard, dissatisfying work associated with addressing and removing ineffective staff. This requires addressing problems head on with a positive attitude. When hiring new staff, principals need to go to great efforts to hire educators that align best with the vision of the school. Cares about students and staff: Effective principals never give up on kids and their support staff. They are the epitome of instructional leadership and will show teachers how to become more effective based on evaluative data. As noted by Dr. Strong, the elements above are important at a personal level. He then identified the following indicators of principal quality that is supported by research. The most effective teachers seamlessly use multiple instructional strategies during a lesson and good principals can identify them. Communication and community relations: Now more than ever schools need great leaders. The task now at hand is to develop a plan on how to support principal effectiveness while developing an evaluation tool that will help us do the best job possible for the students that we serve.

Chapter 3 : AASA | American Association of School Administrators

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Chapter 4 : Ten Traits of Highly Effective Principals: From Good to Great Performance byâ€¦ | eBay

Highly effective principals have strong communication skills, high levels of knowledge about teaching and learning, and the ability to provide instructional leadership. This powerful book provides principals, administrative teams, and educators with effective tools to hone these skills and traits.

Chapter 5 : 10 Traits of Highly Effective Principals: From Good to Great Performance by Elaine K. McEwan

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Chapter 6 : Qualities of Effective Principals “ Connected Principals

Description. Ten Traits of Highly Effective Principals contains a built-in facilitator's guide, ideas, reflections, behaviors, habits, and stories from the trenches to guide and inspire you?as you seek to increase your own effectiveness.