Developing Student Leadership
What the Good Schools Do

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www.csee.org
Does your mission say anything about leadership?
Mission: Rivers School

... Rivers is dedicated to preparing its students for leadership in a world that needs their talents, imagination, intellect, and compassion.

St. Michael's University School

Our school seeks the excellence in all of us, with passion and compassion. We are a community shaped by the pursuit of truth and goodness, providing outstanding preparation for higher learning and life. (To learn, to lead, to serve; discovering the promise in our selves and the world)
Mission: Harpeth Hall

To teach girls to think critically, to lead confidently, and to live honorably

Mission: Culver Girls Academy

The CGA mission is to educate and inspire young women through a developmental leadership and life skills curriculum designed to prepare them as leaders within the Culver community and for their future lives in an ever changing global world.
It's in the mission, but...

What is leadership?
What is leadership?
The Rivers School
6-12, Weston Massachusetts
“Leadership of Good Character”

Leadership is the demonstration of performance character and moral character in one’s actions, and the cultivation of this character in others, both of which are consistent, purposeful, and recognizable.
What is leadership?

De La Salle High School

9-12, Concord, California

"Leadership for Community Harmony"

A leader is an individual of character whose actions and words are not constricted by negative pressures from those around him, who sets positive examples through his actions, and who can bring in those around him.
What is leadership?
Summit Country Day
Cincinnati, OH

... a collaborative, relationship-building, and morally purposeful process of mobilizing group improvement to most effectively adapt to complexity and change.
What is Leadership?

St. Michael’s University School
6-12, Victoria, BC

Leadership is a process of engagement which moves people to understanding and action in an environment inspired by trust...it is more than simply getting others to act; it is process, understanding, ethos.

Friday, November 12, 2010
If we are to develop leaders, what are the most important qualities that define a leader?
Raymond Cattell
"characteristics of a leader"

emotional stability
assertiveness
sense of humor
enthusiasm
conscientiousness
risk taker
tough mindedness
self assurance
compulsiveness

(to envision future &
convince others...)

high energy
intuitiveness
maturity
team orientation
empathy
charisma
"Top Ten Leadership Qualities"

vision
integrity
dedication
magnanimity
humility
openness
creativity
fairness
assertiveness
sense of humor
integrity
optimistic
embraces change
risk taker
tenacious
catalytic
dedicated/committed
Kouzes & Posner
"The Leadership Challenge"

challenging
enabling others
enabling the heart
inspiring shared vision
modeling
“The 21 Indispensable Qualities of a Leader”

John C. Maxwell

character
charisma
commitment
communication
competence
courage
discernment
focus
generosity
initiative
listening

passion
positive attitude
problem solving
relationships
responsibility
security
self-discipline
servanthood
teachability
vision
putting all those together... here are the important characteristics

- emotional stability
- conscientiousness
- tough mindedness
- self assurance
- compulsiveness
- enthusiasm/energy
- intuitiveness
- maturity
- team orientation
- empathy
- charisma
- communication
- courage
- responsibility
- security
- self discipline

- vision/envision future
- integrity
- positive attitude
- magnanimity
- humility
- listening
- creativity
- fairness
- assertiveness
- sense of humor
- initiative
- optimistic
- embraces change/open
- risk taker
- tenacious

- character
- honest
- forward looking
- competent
- inspiring
- intelligent
- catalytic
- dedicated/committed
- passion
- discernment
- generosity
- focus
- teachability
- problem solving
- relationships
necessary components...?

• connectedness skills
• a vision (purpose) for the group’s benefit
• the will to motivate the group toward that vision
• the skills to motivate and move
8 essentials for schools

• administrative support
• definition (let’s decide what it is?)
• key values, behavioral descriptions of leadership
• broad support (teachers, parents, kids)
Two pieces of literature
Two current events
Ways to integrate leadership into Curriculum

As we read these books, discuss how main characters exemplify (or not) leadership:

A Man for All Seasons
To Kill a Mockingbird
A Separate Peace
Antigone
Integration into Extra-curriculars, into Fabric of School

La Jolla Country Day School
community service program

Flintridge Preparatory School
Leadership as Human Development

Kent Denver School
"even the coaches are talking about it"
Where to start?

inroads into leadership development

St. Michaels University School: chapel
Rivers School: faculty, admin
De La Salle High School: diversity
Suffield Academy
sequential training program

9: goal setting, conflict resolution, relations
10: goals II, service
11: communication, problem solving, meetings
12: demonstrated performance in positions
The Rivers School

6-8 program
fall training

• 8th grade early at school before others
• relationship building
• identification of leaders, characteristics
• training of 6th and 7th graders
• students select values for year
• ongoing workshops during year
• integration into curriculum
• struggle: complete integration, high school
Structure:
8 essentials for schools

• administrative support
• definition (let’s decide what it is?)
• key values, behavioral descriptions of leadership
• broad support (teachers, parents, kids)
• integration into academics & extracurriculars
• someone overseeing the program
• lots of opportunities to practice leading
• assessment/fine tuning
(plus: ongoing work on school’s ethical climate)
Four "musts" for ethical culture

relationships
modeling
empowerment

magic glue
purpose/meaning
necessary components...?

• connectedness skills
• a vision (purpose) for the group’s benefit
• the will to motivate the group toward that vision
• the skills to motivate and move
purpose/vision
(this is where "vision" comes from)

why are you in school?
what values do you most want to stand for?
what purpose do you want your life to have?
what do you want to do to help people when you grow up?
Synthesis

A Leader brings others into a shared vision and motivates them to act for the betterment of the community.