Professional Growth Plan in Progress

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Leadership is one’s ability to provide inspiration and influence, which does not necessarily require the individual to have a leadership title. The assignments given, specific situations, and the group of people that I lead will determine my leadership style and characteristics. There is no single approach towards the perfect leadership style. A combination of styles and approaches achieves positive results.

**My Leadership Style**

My experience over the years in both of my careers has led me to use a variety of leadership characteristics. Rigorous assignments have shaped me to be a transformational leader as I strive for effective change. To create change in the organizations that I lead I begin with transforming the perception of others by establishing a clear and focused vision. The foundation of transformational leadership starts with having a strong vision. Creating a clear and focused vision that guides the behavior of those who follow through the visualization of successful future outcomes along with the ability to communicate it with your group is what creates an effective leader (Northhouse, 2013).

Although I am the leader, I consistently inform my groups that I will always treat them as humans with respect and dignity and that I am here to serve them and the organization as a whole. By building stronger relationships with those I lead, the actions of those who follow me will change due to the realization that work done was not because I am their leader, but rather because they believe that their actions will lead to the overall success of the organization.

**Visionary**

My mission as an educational technology leader is to be a visionary for my school district through inspiration, influence, and leadership in the development, integration, and implementation of the most up to date technology that provides students with an excellent education and transformation of the district’s vision towards academic success.

**Philosophy of Educational Technology**

The diversity of all learners and customized learning opportunities is the foundation of my philosophy of educational technology. I strive to promote active learning environments and authentic engagement with the course content presented to enhance the overall learning experience through the integration/implementation of educational technology. These opportunities will provide students with skills necessary to compete in the global workforce. Through the integration/implementation of educational technology, students will engage with communities, institutions, and people from around the world as an extension of learning beyond the classroom.

**My Short-Term Goals (Next 12 months)**

* As a Principal, I was recently been accepted to be a member of the Superintendent’s Academy at Monmouth University and will begin starting October 1, 2018. This academy was a goal that I established last year, but was denied because I was not a Superintendent of Schools. Since I was not accepted into the Superintendent Academy, I chose to apply for the NJ Leadership Academy held by the NJ Principal & Supervisor Association and I was accepted. The NJ Leadership Academy provided me with skills necessary to build professional communities, strengthen shared instructional leadership, and the ability to sustain equitable educational opportunities. The Superintendent Academy is comprised of five provide professional growth sessions throughout the 2018-2019 school year and will provide me the opportunity to establish a network of current and aspiring Superintendents that will provide support for colleagues, develop collaborative relationships, and allows for an exchange of conversations and experiences in the creation of action plans.
* By January 2019, my plan is to have decided on a topic, given approval, and begin research for my dissertation to support my vision as an educational technology leader.
* I am planning to present on a specific topic at TECHSPO’ 19 in Atlantic City in January, which is held by the NJ Association of School Administrators.

**My Long-Term Goals (Next 3 years)**

* My focus continues on the completion of my doctoral program by May of 2020, and plan become a NJ School Superintendent within that year.
* My focus continues on attending the U.S. Sergeants Major Academy in Fort Bliss, Texas and being promoted in the U.S. Army as a Command Sergeant Major by then end of 2020.

References

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