**Reflection Journal Template**

**EDLS 695: Principal Internship**

**AnchorDate April 1, 2012**

**AnchorJournal Entry #: Weldele- Week 4**

**AnchorIssue addressed: Catholic Culture**

* **Colorado Principal Standard addressed:**
* **VI Principals Demonstrate External development Leadership**
  + **A. Principals design structures and processes which result in family and community engagement, support and ownership of the school.**

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| **AnchorInstructions: Please take time to reflect on your learning during the week or collectively over the course. The two-sided reflection template provides you the prompts for this introspection. Save this electronically and submit in accordance with the guidelines provided by your facilitator.** | |
| * **What I Observed/Learned: Making a budget and program decision based on the Strategic Plan** * This week is Holy Week. In fact, that is why I am writing my reflection now. Not because I am an overachiever, but because there will be no place in my day on Easter to do homework….And that is the expectation we have as a school for our students as well. * Holy Week is the most important week in the Liturgical Year in our Catholic Faith. As such, we have a half day of school on Holy Thursday, and no school on Good Friday and Easter Monday. We communicate through newsletter, announcements, classroom teaching, Mass and individual contact that this is so families can participate in the liturgies leading up to Easter. It is crucial to convey to our students and families that this is not Spring Break. * I am very blessed that our School and Parish are two parts of one community. I am able to be present and participate at all of these sacred liturgies as a member of the parish but I know that it sends a strong message as well to the students and families that I am doing what we have talked about all week. It is also wonderful to be able to acknowledge and support all of the students who attend and participate in the liturgies. * We continue the bridge between parish and school at midnight on Saturday after the Easter Vigil when both school and parish families are invited back to the school to post “Alleluias” all over the school. The students colored these Alleluias on Fat Tuesday and they were put away for all of Lent. * As a Catholic School, Faith is a part of everyday at school. It is important, however, to help students see the connections between what they learn and experience in school and what they do outside of school. I am so fortunate to be a part of the community where I can continue to help them make those connections. | * **How This Will Impact My Leadership Practice** * **How will this impact how I make decisions regarding students, staff, and/or parents?**   I am aware every day that students look at me (and all the teachers) and ask “Do they walk the walk or just talk the talk”. As a part of the parish community, students have the opportunity to see not only myself but many of their teachers outside of the school day. It reminds me that school is not in a vacuum and decisions impact the whole child and even extend into the family.   * **How will this impact those I lead? What will I need to supervise closely and what can be delegated?** * As a faculty we spend time throughout the year on reflection and spiritual growth. If we are going to lead students and families in their faith, we have to make sure we take care of our own faith too. You can’t give water from and empty well. * **How will this impact my leadership processes?**   I miss teaching. Helping to nourish the faith of my teachers and providing support for passing on the faith to our students is a way I get to continue teaching. It is also an opportunity to model ‘outside of the box’ methods and experiences. |
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***Critical Issues***

* Catholic Culture/Outreach
* “Being Present”
* Being an active part of the community