Reflection Journal Template

EDLS 695: Principal Internship

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Journal Entry #: 6

Issue addressed (e.g. Student Discipline): School mission and vision

Colorado Principal Standard addressed: **Standard I: Principals Demonstrate Strategic Leadership**

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| Instructions: 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. You can use the return or tab to move between the cells in the document. Save this electronically and submit in accordance with the guidelines provided by your facilitator. | |
| What I Observed/Learned | How This Will Impact My Leadership Practice |
| * What new knowledge did I gain in my observations and interactions?   I stepped outside the box this week and did something completely different. As I think about building on the vision and mission of my own school, I have questions about how other schools do things. In order to get an original thought process on building mission and vision, I spent some time at the Colorado Springs School, a very high achieving independent school near The Broadmoor. I was introduced to the Head of School and spent a couple of hours with him simply discussing education. What I learned was simply astounding. As one of the highest achieving private schools in the Mountain West Region, this school operates and approaches education completely opposite of the public system - and they still produce very successful graduates! The autonomy, teaching methods, engagement and involvement the kids have in their own learning is amazing. My time there made me really think about how we need to take the strengths of each of our populations and run with them. In short, we need to start thinking outside the box in approaching best practice. | * How will this impact how I make decisions regarding students, staff, and/or parents?   While still working within the guidelines of district and state norms and policies, I think I will guide my staff to take more risks in the way they teach various programmatic material. We NEED to bring in the strengths and passions of our students and use them for THEIR benefit.   * How will this impact those I lead? What will I need to supervise closely and what can be delegated?   Sometimes, we become intimidated when we are given too much leeway in the way we teach or approach bringing our students to the end goals within our assignments. As a leader, I have to be able to give my staff the support and vision to accomplish this. We have been letting the art of teaching slip away from us......we need to allow our teachers to bring this back into the classroom.   * How will this impact my leadership processes?   I will have to spend a lot of time observing practices and classroom activities for engagement and overall achievement. I will also have to trust the thought processes of my teachers if I give them the autonomy I would want them to have. |
| ***Critical Issues***to remember as I make decisions regarding students, employees, and/or parents and the law:  I would have to back up these decisions with a lot of data. If things are working, GREAT, but here is the data to back up progress. If things don't work, I would need to take the heat and make decisions to institute shifts in teaching design. | |