GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
Education Leadership Program

EDLE 620, Section 001, Fall 2013
Organizational Theory and Leadership Development

Instructor: Scott C. Bauer
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Fairfax, VA 22030-4444
Office Hours: Wednesday/Thursday 2 pm – 3:30 pm, and by appointment

Schedule Information

Meeting Times: Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m. – 7:10 p.m.

All students are expected to attend every class session. Personal problems that prevent students from attending class should be reported ahead of time to the instructor via telephone or e-mail.

Location: Thompson Hall, room 1020

Course Description

EDLE 620 Organizational Theory and Leadership Development (3:3:0)

Studies basic organizational theories and models of leadership and management. Emphasizes shared leadership in professional environments, communication skills, systems thinking, and personal and organizational change. Bridges theory to practical applications in educational settings.

Corequisite(s): Application to the Education Leadership Program.

General Goals

Organizational Theory and Leadership Development is intended to provide students with an opportunity to explore meanings of leadership in schools, leaders’ role in school change and restructuring; and ways school leaders make sense of school organization. Students will explore both how organizations function and leadership choices within organizations, and they will have an opportunity to begin to develop a vision of their leadership practice and situate this practice within a perspective of how school organizations work.

Program vision: The Education Leadership Program is dedicated to improving the quality of pre-K – 12 education through teaching, research, and service. Candidates and practicing administrators engage in course work devoted to experiential learning, professional growth opportunities, and doctoral research that informs practice. We educate exceptional leaders who act with integrity as they work to improve schools.
Content
In order to develop leadership savvy, students will deepen their understanding of how organizations function and how leaders influence school change and improvement. Specific content includes:

1. Reviewing meanings of leadership and the role leaders play in school change and improvement;
2. Articulating a vision for effective school leadership and your beliefs about leadership, teaching, and learning;
3. Learning four major frameworks for analyzing organizational behavior and outcomes;
4. Clarifying which framework(s) students find most useful for informing their own leadership styles and choices;
5. Applying skills, knowledge, and dispositions gained through the Education Leadership Program to the analysis of case studies and in role-playing exercises involving leadership behavior and school change.

In addition to the content goals stated above, the following represent process goals for this course:

Teaching and Learning:
1. Each class will mirror as much as possible effective leadership practice and will reflect good management. We will:
   - start and end on time;
   - maintain and follow a written agenda for each class;
   - listen first to understand, then seek to be understood; and
   - work toward common goals in a professional and cordial manner.
2. As they develop and refine oral presentation skills, students will
   - work individually and in groups to develop strategies for addressing organizational problems or challenges;
   - engage in a variety of learning activities, including case studies and simulations, and present their analysis orally; and
   - assess the oral effectiveness of peers.
3. Students are expected to apply what they have learned previously to the writing assignments for this course and to their self-assessments and assessments of peers.

Classroom Climate:
We will endeavor to create a classroom climate that approximates what we know about effective leadership dispositions and the attributes of learning organization. As such, it is important that we create a space that allows participants to try out new ideas and voice opinions without fear of ridicule or embarrassment. The hallmark of a learning organization is a balance between openness and constructive feedback; hence, everyone is expected to:

- Come fully prepared to each class;
- Demonstrate appropriate respect for one another;
• Voice concerns and opinions about class process openly;
• Recognize and celebrate each other’s ideas and accomplishments;
• Show an awareness of each other’s needs.

**Nature of course delivery**

Consistent with the EDLE program goals and approach to leadership preparation, we will engage in a variety of learning activities in class, including exercises, debates, oral presentations, and analyses of cases. Students will serve as critical friends for each other, including providing periodic feedback on written assignments.

Class activities and assignments will emphasize connecting theory on leadership and school organization with the realities of professional educator’s work in schools. Since an important component of any leader’s learning involves balancing action and reflection, assignments will emphasize using theory as a lens for reflecting on leadership practice, and on sharing thoughts and opinions about the ways leaders impact teaching and learning in schools.

**Course Objectives**

This course is the first class in the licensure sequence in Education Leadership and is therefore intended to introduce students to theory and practice in school leadership. Students taking this class will:

• refine their perspectives on education administration as they hone their leadership skills;
• develop a personal philosophy of education and a personal vision relating to their leadership practice;
• assess their leadership strengths and areas for development;
• understand leadership roles in schools and school districts in settings characterized by diversity;
• use various social science perspectives as the foundation for advocacy and change;
• learn how to work with the larger community; and
• develop oral and written communication skills.

**Student Outcomes**

At the conclusion of this course, successful students should be able to:

1. Articulate their core beliefs about teaching, learning, and leadership, and relate these to their vision of effective school leadership;
2. Analyze educational issues using four major frameworks for analyzing organizational behavior and outcomes;
3. Connect major leadership and organizational theories, and apply these to the understanding of real-world puzzles associated with leadership practice;
4. Articulate the leadership role(s) they aspire to take at the conclusion of their program of study;
5. Begin to articulate how they plan to develop their leadership capabilities in the near future.

**Relationship of Course Goals to Program Goals**

The Education Leadership program is designed to prepare candidates for leadership and management positions in a variety of educational settings. The program emphasizes an understanding of the complexities of change in schools, communities, and organizations. This is the first class in the licensure sequence in Education Leadership and is therefore intended to introduce students to theory and practice in school leadership. Theory introduced in this class will be used throughout the program to frame candidate’s thinking about leadership practice and decision making.

**Relationship of Course to Internship**

Although the internship is a separate course, the Education Leadership program has integrated “embedded experiences” into course work. This means that some of the work for class may be related to your internship. You may write about embedded experiences in your internship journal and Collective Record, but they can only count over and above the minimum 320 hours required for the internship. [However, EDLE 620 is typically taken prior to enrolling in EDLE 791, Internship; hence it is unlikely that any class work would be included in the Collective Record.]

**National Standards and Virginia Competencies**

The course addresses a variety of the ELLC Standards, focusing primarily on the following: Standards 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, and corresponding components of the Virginia Standards for School Leaders:

1. The program in administration and supervision preK-12 shall ensure that the candidate has demonstrated the following competencies:
   a. Knowledge understanding, and application of planning, assessment, and instructional leadership that builds collective professional capacity, including:
      (7) Identification, analysis, and resolution of problems using effective problem-solving techniques;
      (8) Communication of a clear vision of excellence, linked to mission and core beliefs that promotes continuous improvement consistent with the goals of the school division.

   b. Knowledge, understanding and application of systems and organizations, including:
      (1) Systems theory and the change process of systems, organizations and individuals, using appropriate and effective adult learning models;
(2) Aligning organizational practice, division mission, and core beliefs for developing and implementing strategic plans;

e. Knowledge, understanding and application of the purpose of education and the role of professionalism in advancing educational goals, including;
(3) Reflective understanding of theories of leadership and their application to decision-making in the school setting;
(5) Intentional and purposeful effort to model continuous professional learning and to work collegially and collaboratively with all members of the school community to support the school’s goals and enhance its collective capacity.

f. Knowledge understanding and application of basic leadership theories and influences that impact schools including;
(1) Concepts of leadership including systems theory, change theory, learning organizations and current leadership theory;
(2) Historical leadership theories including organizational theory, motivational theory, political and social systems theory to practical situations;
(3) Identify and respond to internal and external forces and influences on a school.

Course Materials

Readings:


Outside-of-Class Resources:

Online access is vital for the distance learning aspects of the course and is important if we experience school shutdowns because of the weather or other problems. **All students are now required to activate and monitor their GMU e-mail accounts.** If you are uncertain about how to do this, please see me. It is my expectation that you will be fully competent to send and receive e-mail messages **with attachments.** If your computer at school or home has spam blocking that will prevent you from seeing messages with attachments, you are responsible for addressing this problem immediately.
All students are required to use http://www.taskstream.com as part of this course. This is an Internet site at which I will post vital information for the course and through which we will communicate from time to time. Samples of student work will be archived on this site for purposes of course, program, and college assessment.

It is my expectation that all students have access to standard word processing software that can be read by Microsoft Office (2003, 2007 or 2010).

**Course Requirements, Performance-based Assessment, and Evaluation Criteria**

**Attendance**

Students are expected to attend every class for its entirety. Maximum class participation points will be earned by students who attend all classes, are on time and do not leave early.

**General Expectations**

Consistent with expectations of a master’s level course in the Education Leadership program, grading is based heavily on student performance on written assignments. Overall, written work will be assessed using the following broad criteria:

1. Application of concepts reflected in class discussion and readings
2. Original thinking and persuasiveness
3. The ability to write in a clear, concise, and organized fashion

Additionally, a portion of the class grade will be based on participation and the contribution you make to class discussions. The overall weights of the various performances are as follows:

**Class participation [10 points]**

Students are expected to participate actively in class discussions, in group activities, and in serving as critical friends to other students. Attendance is expected for all classes. If you must be absent, please notify me by e-mail or phone. More than one absence may result in a reduction in participation points. Arriving at class more than 30 minutes late or leaving more than 30 minutes before the end of class may result in loss of points.

**Written assignments [90 points]**

Several different types of performance-based assignments will be completed during the semester. Each assignment relates to the application of leadership and organizational theory in school settings. Each assignment and a rubric for grading each assignment are described at the end of this syllabus.

The final assignment, i.e., the Reframing paper, is the program-level Performance-Based Assessments for this course.
Papers are due as indicated on the reading schedule that follows. ALL ASSIGNMENTS must be submitted electronically, through TaskStream. TaskStream is an online assessment system used by the college to collect student work, provide feedback to students, and maintain an ongoing record of student assessment data. You will be provided with a TaskStream account and use TaskStream to submit work for courses, as well as to prepare and submit your internship portfolio.

Late work: I expect all students to submit their work on time, meaning no later than by midnight of the due date. I will not accept any written assignments after the due date.¹

Rewrites: Time permitting, and at my discretion, students may revise and re-submit papers (other than the final paper) to improve their performance. (Students with a grade of 3.6 or higher are discouraged from resubmitting.) Such revisions are due not later than one week after receiving feedback on the previous draft. I may re-consider an assignment grade, but I will not negotiate grades with students. If you wish to discuss your work, I am willing to do so at a time of mutual convenience.

Grading scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>100 percent</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>95 – 99.99 percent</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 – 94.99 percent</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>86 – 89.99 percent</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83 – 85.99 percent</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80 – 82.99 percent</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>75 – 79.99 percent</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>74.99 percent or below</td>
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</table>

¹ At my discretion, and only under unusual and compelling circumstances, e.g., a serious illness, due dates may be renegotiated.
GMU POLICIES AND RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS

a. Students must adhere to the guidelines of the George Mason University Honor Code [See http://oai.gmu.edu/honor-code/].

b. Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing [See http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/].

c. Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their George Mason University email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.

d. The George Mason University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) staff consists of professional counseling and clinical psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops and outreach programs) to enhance students’ personal experience and academic performance [See http://caps.gmu.edu/].

e. Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the George Mason University Office of Disability Services (ODS) and inform their instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester [See http://ods.gmu.edu/].

f. Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

g. The George Mason University Writing Center staff provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing [See http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/].

Core Values Commitment
The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles.
Proposed class schedule:
To accommodate the learning needs of the class, the topic and reading schedule may be amended during the semester. Please check for announcements on the course website for any update to the schedule if you miss a class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Required Readings</th>
<th>Exercises/Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/28</td>
<td>Introduction &amp; Overview – Organizational Analysis</td>
<td>Bolman &amp; Deal (B&amp;D), Part 1</td>
<td>Exercise: Powerful learning</td>
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<td>Homework: Personal Best interviews</td>
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<td>9/4</td>
<td>Field work: Personal Best cases</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/11</td>
<td>Leadership theory - from <em>classical</em> to <em>transformational</em> to <em>distributive</em></td>
<td>Fullan, chapters 1, 2</td>
<td>Homework: Study group protocol (Taskstream)</td>
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<td><strong>Personal Best cases to share</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/18</td>
<td>Exploration: What kind of leadership do we need for today’s schools?</td>
<td>Leithwood et al., <em>What we know about school leadership</em> (TS)</td>
<td>Study group protocol</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Leithwood et al., <em>How leadership influences student learning</em> (TS)</td>
<td>Exercise: You write the job description</td>
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<td>ELCC Standards (TS)</td>
<td>Homework: Gillian Broner</td>
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<td><strong>PERSONAL BEST PAPER POSTED TO TASKSTREAM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/25</td>
<td>The leader’s role in school change</td>
<td>Fullan, chapter 3</td>
<td>Discussion: Broner case</td>
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<td>ITCOT</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/2</td>
<td>Ways of seeing organization and leadership - Structural Frame</td>
<td>B&amp;D: Part 2</td>
<td>Exercise: In-Basket</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Exercise: Organizational design for shared decision-making</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/9</td>
<td>Ways of seeing organization and leadership - Human</td>
<td>B&amp;D: Part 3</td>
<td>Exercise: QWL Interviews</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Fullan, chapter 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Resource Frame</td>
<td>Notes</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/16</td>
<td>Take a break from reading: Platform of Beliefs (presentations)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/23</td>
<td>Ways of seeing organization and leadership - Political Frame</td>
<td>B&amp;D: Part 4</td>
<td>Exercise: Environmental Scan</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fullan, chapter 5</td>
<td>Homework: Martian Landing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/30</td>
<td>Ways of seeing organization and leadership – Symbolic Frame</td>
<td>B&amp;D: Part 5</td>
<td>Debrief: Martian Landing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/6</td>
<td>Electronic session</td>
<td>Your change case (for paper 3)</td>
<td>PLATFORM OF BELIEFS WRITE-UP POSTED TO TASKSTREAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/13</td>
<td>Reframing change</td>
<td>B&amp;D: Chapters 15, 16</td>
<td>Exercise: Reframing mini-cases</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fullan, chapter 6, 7</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/20</td>
<td>Reframing leadership</td>
<td>B&amp;D: Chapter 17, 18, 20</td>
<td>Reframing paper – draft for sharing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/4</td>
<td>Wrap-up, conclusions</td>
<td></td>
<td>Exercise: A Letter to Yourself</td>
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<td></td>
<td>REFRAMING PAPER POSTED TO TASKSTREAM</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Assignment #1 Personal Best
30 points

Rationale

Candidates in our program come from a variety of backgrounds, and have a variety of professional interests and experiences. To discover attributes of effective school leadership we will borrow a research activity from a classic leadership work.

Process

This assignment borrows from James Kouzes and Barry Posner’s book, *The Leadership Challenge*. As a part of their studies of leaders and followers, they asked leaders to write a personal best case, which they then discussed to discover themes about leader behavior.

For this paper, identify one person who you believe to be an effective leader, and interview this leader about his or her leadership best. Some questions included in the K&P study included the following:

- What characterized the situation? Who was involved, where and when did it take place, and who initiated the situation?
- What motivated you to get involved? How did you challenge yourself and others?
- How did you build enthusiasm and excitement? How did you involve others and foster collaboration? How did you build trust and respect?
- What principles and values guided you and others? How did you set an example?

Product

The first part of this paper is the case description, which you should write-up based on your interview. To complete the paper, use the leadership model Fullan presents in chapter 1 of his book as an analytic tool to examine the case. In what ways did this leader excel in the situation you described, and what leadership attributes or behaviors most contributed to making this a “best?” Finally, in conclusion, what lessons did you learn about leadership in your specialization from analyzing the experience, and how useful did you find the Fullan model as a tool for analysis?

Structure your paper in the following way:

1. Write an introductory paragraph that starts out broadly and narrows down to a one-sentence thesis that is the last sentence of the paragraph. Your thesis states your main argument (i.e., what you plan to show in your paper).
2. Following the introduction, include a paragraph that describes your method – what you did to collect your evidence. You might describe who you selected (your subject), when and where you collected information, what questions you asked, and how you recorded your data.
3. Write each body paragraph such that the topic sentence relates directly to your thesis and that the significance of the paragraph in terms of your thesis is clear.
4. Conclude with a paragraph that begins with your re-worded thesis and broadens out to explain the greater implications of your paper.
This is a short paper (8 +/- pages), which should be typewritten, double-spaced with ample margins. Come to class prepared to share your case!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Meets expectations 3 pts</th>
<th>Approaching expectations 2 pts</th>
<th>Falls below expectations 1 pt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thesis &amp; introduction</td>
<td>Paper starts with a brief introduction that alludes to the purpose of the paper, contains a thesis, and provides a general foreshadowing of what is to be included.</td>
<td>The introduction provides some indication of the purpose of the paper, but lacks a thesis and/or provides inadequate or confusing information about what is to be shared.</td>
<td>There is no clear introduction or purpose.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description of method</td>
<td>The paper includes a brief description of the method, but details on some aspects of how the study was conducted are unclear.</td>
<td>The paper includes some discussion of method, but details on one or more aspect of how the study was conducted are omitted.</td>
<td>The methods section is omitted or wholly inadequate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description of personal best case</td>
<td>The case is described thoroughly, but detail is lacking on why the case represents a “personal best”</td>
<td>Description of the case is incomplete or poorly constructed</td>
<td>Description of the case is largely missing or wholly inadequate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case analysis</td>
<td>Fullan’s model is used adequately to assess how the case exemplifies effective leadership.</td>
<td>Analysis is weak or incomplete, or superficially considers the Fullan model.</td>
<td>Analysis is unrelated to the case, is largely missing or wholly inadequate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conclusion, implications</td>
<td>General lessons are presented relating to leadership in the specialization, and the efficacy of the Fullan model as a tool for assessing leadership practice is mentioned.</td>
<td>Lessons relating to the candidate’s experiences and future leadership development are superficial</td>
<td>Lessons learned and implications of the case are largely missing or wholly inadequate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization of paper</td>
<td>Paper includes brief skeleton (introduction, body, conclusion) but lacks transitions</td>
<td>Paper includes brief skeleton (introduction, body, conclusion) but lacks transitions</td>
<td>Paper lacks logical progression of ideas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanics</td>
<td>Nearly error-free which reflects clear understanding of APA format and thorough proofreading</td>
<td>Occasional APA and/or grammatical errors and questionable word choice</td>
<td>Errors in grammar, APA format, or punctuation, but spelling has been proofread</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Assignment #2 Platform of Beliefs
20 points

**Rationale**
The Maine School Leadership Network developed the Platform of Beliefs exercise as a tool they use with school leaders as a way of helping them identify the core beliefs that form the foundation of their decision-making and professional practice. We believe that it is important for you to identify and reflect on such beliefs so that when you step into a leadership role you will have a reliable compass. Your final internship submission requires you to re-visit and write about your Platform of Beliefs.

**Process**
Each person approaches a reflective exercise like this somewhat uniquely, based on past experiences, knowledge, and hopes for the future. In preparation for this presentation, you may complete the visioning exercise posted, in which you develop a sense of the ways you would like to improve teaching and learning in your school. You may also want to use your notes from our classroom activity focused on visioning.

To create your platform:
- Identify 3 or so core beliefs that are important to you when you think about teaching, learning, and leadership.
- For each of these, explain why it is a critically important belief, and how it relates to the other beliefs.
- Then for each belief, expand on it by including a few principles that describe what the belief means and how it appears in school practices. What are people actually doing when this belief is manifested in behaviors?

**Products**
Your Platform of Beliefs is a document you will be developing throughout the program. At this stage, consider the document a work in progress. Use this exercise to reflect on the kind of leader you want to be, and to begin to develop the capacity to speak with others about this vision.

1. Come prepared to make a short presentation of your vision and beliefs (which will be video-taped and posted)

   Assume you are interviewing for a position as an assistant principal at the Great American School, and you have been asked to make a short presentation about your leadership vision to the search committee (comprised of teachers, parents, and a student). What kind of first impression do you want to make? How will you convey what is important to you, and how will you lead? What messages do you want to send to the powers that be (though this committee) about your leadership? You have 3 minutes to make your best impression. (Note – the principal runs a tight little meeting, so you only have 3 minutes.)

2. Written reflection: I will be posting your presentation. Please review it and write a brief reflection of your presentation from a symbolic leadership perspective. What had you
hoped to communicate, and what do you think the committee took away from the talk? What did you learn from this experience?

This is a short reflection (2-3 pages), which should be typewritten, double-spaced with ample margins.

Platform of Beliefs Assessment Rubric

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Exceeds Expectations</th>
<th>Meets Expectations</th>
<th>Approaching Expectations</th>
<th>Falls Below Expectations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attention to Audience (15%)</td>
<td>The presenter engaged the audience and held their attention throughout with creative articulation, enthusiasm, and clearly focused presentation.</td>
<td>The presenter engaged the audience and held their attention most of the time by remaining on topic and presenting facts with enthusiasm.</td>
<td>Little attempt was made to engage the audience.</td>
<td>The presenter did not attempt to engage the audience.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarity (15%)</td>
<td>Development of thesis is clear through use of specific and appropriate examples; transitions are clear and create a succinct and even flow.</td>
<td>The sequence of information is well-organized for the most part, but more clarity with transitions is needed.</td>
<td>Content is loosely connected, transitions lack clarity.</td>
<td>No apparent logical order of presentation, unclear focus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation Length (15%)</td>
<td>Presented within the allotted time</td>
<td>Remained close to the allotted time (i.e., within 30 seconds)</td>
<td>Exceeding or falling short of allotted time by a significant margin (30-60 seconds)</td>
<td>Greatly exceeding or falling short of allotted time (more than 60 seconds)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content (15%)</td>
<td>Exceptional use of material that clearly relates to a focused thesis; creative use of supporting ideas.</td>
<td>Information relates to a clear thesis; many relevant points, but they are somewhat unstructured.</td>
<td>Thesis is clear, but supporting information is disconnected.</td>
<td>Thesis is unclear and information appears randomly chosen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaking Skills (15%)</td>
<td>Exceptional confidence with material displayed through poise, clear articulation, eye contact, and enthusiasm.</td>
<td>Clear articulation of ideas, but the presenter apparently lacks confidence with material.</td>
<td>Little eye contact; fast speaking rate, little expression, mumbling.</td>
<td>Monotone; speaker seemed uninterested in material.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written reflection (25%)</td>
<td>An in-depth reflection is provided that thoroughly examines your presentation from a symbolic leadership perspective, including specific lessons you derived from the experience relating to dispositions and/or proficiencies associated with effective school leadership and/or the leader’s role in change.</td>
<td>A reflection is provided that examines your presentation and beliefs, noting some general lessons relating to dispositions and/or proficiencies associated with effective school leadership and/or the leader’s role in school change.</td>
<td>A reflection is provided that shows some effort at relating the presentation to an understanding of effective leadership.</td>
<td>Reflection is superficial, mostly rehashing the presentation.</td>
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Assignment #3 Reframing
40 points

Rationale
Bolman and Deal (2008) say that the essence of reframing is examining the same situation from different perspectives to develop a more holistic picture. To practice this critical leadership skill, you will reconsider a school improvement project focused on instruction that you’ve experienced in the last year or two at your school. You will analyze the project as a case using multiple frames to see what you can learn about the specific project and about leadership generally.

Process
Briefly describe the improvement or change:
- What was the performance or achievement gap being addressed by the change?
- How was data or evidence employed to determine or explain the gap?
- What was the specific goal?
- What strategy or action was used to promote improvement? (What was the objective of the school improvement project?)
- To what degree did collaboration take place? Was it meaningful? Helpful?
- What was the rationale for using this strategy to promote improvement? (Why did anyone think implementing the action plan would bring about the specific improvement you sought?) What was the theory of action behind the project?
- What happened, and what did you learn from implementation of this project?

Product
Step back and consider the bases for your description—what frame are you using when you describe and analyze the change? Discuss your conclusions explicitly in terms of the use of the frame. What does the use of this conceptual lens help you understand about the case?

Then, select one or more other frames to examine the case:
- What do you learn by analyzing this case through the lens of this frame?
- Do you see different opportunities, challenges, or outcomes from an alternative perspective?

Reflecting on your frame analysis:
- Was the improvement effort successful? To what degree? How do you know?
- Most important: What actions would you take to make the improvement effort in your case more effective? Do any of these actions involve changing the school planning process? In what ways?

HINT: It seems likely that you would select the structural or human resources frames instinctively. As a comparison, try to select the political or symbolic frames—these may provide you with the best opportunities to see different things in the same case.

In your thesis, be sure to explain which frames you are using and why. In the body of your paper, develop what you believe to be the primary features of each frame (be brief, but let me
know that you know what’s unique and valuable about the frame as a way of seeing), and what you learn about the case by using the frame.

This is a somewhat longer paper (8 +/- pages) than the others assigned in this class. It must be word-processed and conform to APA format.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization of paper: 5%</th>
<th>Mechanics and APA: 5%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The paper is powerfully organized and fully developed.</td>
<td>The paper is nearly error-free, reflecting clear understanding of mechanics and APA and thorough proofreading.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The paper includes a logical progression of ideas aided by clear transitions.</td>
<td>The paper contains occasional grammatical errors and questionable word choice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The paper includes skeletal structure (introduction, body, conclusion) but lacks transitions.</td>
<td>Errors in grammar and punctuation are frequent, but spelling has been proofread.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The paper lacks a logical progression of ideas.</td>
<td>The paper contains frequent errors in spelling, grammar, and punctuation.</td>
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