

School Leadership

Guiding Question:

What are the key responsibilities of your ideal school leader?

Step 1 – Research

Think through the key responsibilities of your ideal school leader. Consider the five major responsibilities of strong school leaders, as identified by the Wallace Foundation. Why is each one important? Which ones matter most?

Are there responsibilities you would add? For example, you might add “ensuring that all members of the school community feel valued and heard” or “making sure all students’ means all students’ regardless of social background, identity, or academic needs.” List what you would add in the space below.

Step 2 – Reflect

Share your thinking with your team and discuss these questions:

- How similar or different are everyone’s individual responses? Why? What patterns do you see?
- Thinking about the needs of your school, students, and teachers right now, why is each of these responsibilities important, individually and collectively?
- What additional responsibilities would you add to describe the ideal leader for your new or redesigned school?
- Which responsibilities are most important or urgent? Do any seem less important?
- Now complete a new table together to summarize your conclusions.

Key Leadership Responsibility	Impact on Teachers and Students
<p>1. Shaping a vision of academic success for all students, based on high standards</p>	<p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>2. Creating a climate of safety, cooperation, and fruitful interaction</p>	<p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>

Key Leadership Responsibility	Impact on Teachers and Students
<p>3. Cultivating leadership in others so that teachers and other adults assume their part in realizing the school's vision</p>	<p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>4. Improving instruction to enable teachers to teach and students to learn at their best</p>	<p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>5. Managing people, data, and processes to foster school improvement</p>	<p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>What else?</p>	<p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
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