Leaders and Learning

How District, School, and Classroom Leadership to Improve Student Achievement Dufour and Marzano

Price: \$22.00

OCS Contribution: \$22.00

Finalist-Association of Educational Publishers 2012 Distinguished Achievement Award

For many years, Dr. Richard DuFour and Dr. Robert J. Marzano have been cotravelers on the journey to help educators improve their schools. In their first book together, Dr. DuFour and Dr. Marzano have combined their passions to articulate how effective leaders foster continuous improvement at the district, school, and classroom levels. The book focuses on district leadership, principal leadership, and team leadership.

improvement at the district, school, and classroom levels. The book focuses on district leadership, principal leadership, and team leadership, and addresses how individual teachers can be most effective in leading students--by learning with colleagues how to implement the most promising pedagogy in their classrooms.

The authors argue that no single person has all the knowledge, skills, and talent to lead a district, improve a school, or meet all the needs of every child in his or her classroom. Instead, it will take a collaborative effort and widely dispersed leadership to meet the challenges confronting schools.

Benefits

- Combines the authors' expertise and many years of experience into one comprehensive volume on leadership
- Provides proven strategies for school improvement based on the most up-to-date research
- Focuses on how district and school leaders create the conditions to support the collaborative culture of a PLC
- Examines the specific work that teachers undertake as members of PLCs

Freedom to Change Four Strategies to Put Your Inner Drive into Overdrive Michael Fullan

Price: \$15.00

OCS Contribution: \$15.00

Break free to make real change for yourself and others

Have you ever felt like your progress was being blocked, not just by your own circumstances, but by the presence and actions of others? *Freedom to Change* releases you from the trap of constantly telling yourself that you'd be more successful at teaching, leading, or contributing to an organization if only others didn't stand in your way. In his engaging, irreverent style, bestselling author Michael Fullan explores the two kinds of freedom in our daily lives: freedom from obstacles versus freedom to take initiative and act. Gaining freedom from barriers has no value in itself until it is partnered with an equally determined sense of what you truly want. What change would you like to bring about for yourself or those around you?

Given that human nature and productivity are fundamentally social, Fullan prescribes four dynamically interrelated actions we can take:

- 1. Consciously seeking a balance between our own autonomy and cooperation with others
- 2. Improving the feedback exchange—giving more valuable responses, as well as eliciting, hearing, and accepting feedback more effectively
- 3. Building accountability to others into the fabric of our working lives
- 4. Finding ways to influence others with the changes we've made and want to spread

Illustrated and enriched with examples from education, business, and nonprofit sectors, *Freedom to Change* offers recommendations for both individuals and organizations seeking to enhance connectedness *and* independence.

The Principal Three Keys to Maximize Impact Michael Fullan

Price: \$20.00

OCS Contribution: \$20.00

The author of Six Secrets of Change describes how and why the principal's role must change to maximize student achievement

*** FREE Professional Development Guide Included ***

Principals are often called the second most crucial in-school influencers (after teachers) of student learning. But what should the principal do in order to maximize student achievement? One of the best-known leadership authors in education, Fullan explains why the answer lies neither in micro-managing instruction nor in autonomous entrepreneurialism. He shows systematically how the principal's role should change, demonstrating how it can be done in short order, at scale.

- Reveals the three key roles that administrators must play in today's schools
- Explains how to choose the right versus wrong drivers of school success
- Filled with "action items" to help implement Fullan's program effectively
- Includes strategies that have been successfully field-tested in schools across the United States and Canada

Blended Using Disruptive Innovation to Improve Schools Horn & Staker

Price: \$22.00

OCS Contribution: \$22.00

Navigate the transition to blended learning with this practical field guide

Blended is the practical field guide for implementing blended learning techniques in K-12 classrooms. A follow-up to the bestseller Disrupting Class by Clayton M. Christensen, Michael Horn, and Curtis Johnson, this hands-on guide expands upon the blended learning ideas presented in that book to provide practical implementation guidance for educators seeking to incorporate online learning with traditional classroom time. Readers will find a step-by-step framework upon which to build a more student-centered system, along with essential advice that provides the expertise necessary to build the next generation of K-12 learning environments. Leaders, teachers, and other stakeholders will gain valuable insight into the process of using online learning to the greatest benefit of students, while avoiding missteps and potential pitfalls.

If online learning has not already rocked your local school, it will soon. Blended learning is one of the hottest trends in education right now, and educators are clamoring for "how-to" guidance. *Blended* answers the call by providing detailed information about the strategy, design, and implementation of a successful blended learning program.

- Discover a useful framework for implementing blended learning
- Unlock the benefits and mitigate the risks of online learning
- Find answers to the most commonly asked questions surrounding blended learning
- Create a more student-centered system that functions as a positive force across grade levels

Educators who loved the ideas presented in *Disrupting Class* now have a field guide to making it work in a real-world school, with expert advice for making the transition smoother for students, parents, and teachers alike. For educational leaders seeking more student-centered schools, *Blended* provides the definitive roadmap.

Catholic School Leadership A volume in Research on Religion and Education Series Editors: Dosen and Rieckhoff

Price: \$46.00

OCS Contribution: \$25.00

The administration of Pre K - 12 Catholic schools becomes more challenging each year. Catholic school leaders not only have the daunting task of leading a successful learning organization, but also to serve as the school community's spiritual leader and the vigilant steward who keeps the budget balanced, the building clean, and maintaining a healthy enrollment in the school. Each of these tasks can be a full time job, yet the Catholic school principal takes on these tasks day after day, year after year, so that teachers may teach as Jesus did.

The goal of this book is to provide both beginning and seasoned Catholic school leaders with some insights that might help them to meet these challenges with a sense of confidence. The words in this text provide research-based approaches for dealing with issues of practice, especially those tasks that are not ordinarily taught in educational leadership programs. This text helps to make sense of the pastoral side of Catholic education, in terms of structures, mission, identity, curriculum, and relationships with the principal's varied constituencies.

It also provides some insights into enrollment management issues, finances and development, and the day in day out care of the organization and its home, the school building. As a Catholic school leader, each must remember that the Catholic school is not just another educational option. The Catholic school has a rich history and an important mission. Historically, education of the young goes back to the monastic and cathedral schools of the Middle Ages.

In the United States, Catholic schools developed as a response to anti-Catholic bias that was rampant during the nineteenth century. Catholic schools developed to move their immigrant and first generation American youth from the Catholic ghetto to successful careers and lives in the American mainstream. However, most importantly, Catholic schools have brought Christ to generations of youngsters. It remains the continuing call of the Catholic school to be a center of Evangelization-a place where Gospel values live in the lives of faculty, students and parents.

This text attempts to integrate the unique challenges of the instructional leader of the institution with the historical and theological underpinnings of contemporary Catholic education.