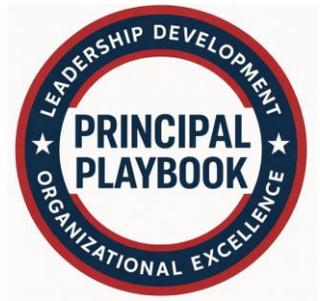# LEADERSHIP-IN-ACTION WORKSHOPS

Informative Sessions to Develop School Leaders

Session 1: What They Don't Teach in Principal School

A Real-World Guide for New and Aspiring School Leaders

Stepping into the principal's office comes with challenges no graduate program can fully prepare you for. This engaging and practical session explores what they don't teach in principal school, the real, day-to-day leadership moves that make or break your success.

Participants will explore:

- **Planning for Success**: How to set a vision, establish priorities, and structure your time for maximum impact—starting from day one.
- **Promoting Leadership Among Students and Staff**: Learn how to cultivate a shared leadership model that empowers others, builds ownership, and strengthens school culture.
- **Running Effective and Purposeful Meetings**: Discover how to plan and lead meetings that are focused, inclusive, and action-oriented—whether administrative, instructional, or departmental.
- **Navigating the "People Side" of the Role**: Gain tools for managing relationships, building trust, and responding to conflict with confidence and clarity.

Whether you're preparing for your first principalship or looking to refine your leadership toolbox, this session offers practical insights, tested strategies, and a candid look at what it really takes to lead a school successfully.

Session 2: Start with Why: Leading with Purpose

Leadership Strategies for Creating a School Where People Want to Teach and Students Want to Learn. Based on the concepts found in "Start with Why" by Simon Sinek

Establishing a strong school culture doesn't happen by accident—it requires vision, consistency, and intentional leadership from day one. Whether you're opening a new school or stepping into an established one, this session will help you lay the foundation for a positive, productive environment that lasts. This session blends leadership insight with practical tools.

In this session, school leaders will learn how to:

- **Lay a Foundation for Long-Term Success**: Set clear values, expectations, and traditions that shape how people work, learn, and interact.
- **Hire the Right Staff for the Culture You Want**: Identify qualities to look for during interviews and create a hiring process aligned with your school's mission.
- **Build Collective Efficacy**: Empower staff to believe in their collective ability to impact student success through shared ownership and collaboration.
- **Send the Same Message to Everyone Every Day**: Ensure your words, actions, and decisions reflect and reinforce your school's core values consistently across all settings.

Session 3: Using Data to Strengthen Critical Thinking and Instructional Practice

Transforming Student Performance Data into Daily, Purposeful Action

Too often, data analysis feels overwhelming or disconnected from daily teaching. This session helps school leaders and instructional teams refocus their approach by identifying one clear takeaway from student performance data—and using it to drive intentional, high-impact classroom practices.

This practical, hands-on session will guide participants through how to:

- **Analyze Student Performance Data with Clarity**: Learn to cut through the noise and find one meaningful insight that can shape instruction and student support.
- **Turn "That One Thing" Into Daily Practice**: Use targeted data points to inform lesson planning, questioning strategies, checks for understanding, and student tasks that build critical thinking and reflection.
- **Connect Data to Instruction Through CLT Planning**: Make collaborative learning team (CLT) time purposeful by aligning team discussions with instructional priorities grounded in data.
- **Ensure Meaningful Follow-Up**: Create systems of accountability, feedback, and instructional coaching to make sure data-driven plans influence classroom practice.

This session will equip leaders and teacher teams with tools and strategies to use data not just for compliance—but to truly elevate learning, thinking, and achievement in every classroom.

Session 4: Implementing and Sustaining Standards-Based Instructional Practices

Building a Schoolwide System That Prioritizes Clarity, Consistency, and Student Learning

Standards-based instruction isn't just about aligning lessons to curriculum—it's about creating a consistent, equitable system that keeps student learning at the center of every conversation. This session equips school leaders and instructional teams with the tools and structures needed to build and sustain effective standards-based practices across all classrooms and turn theory into practice.

Participants will explore how to:

- **Focus on Student Learning First**: Shift the conversation from what's being taught to what's being learned, and how all students demonstrate mastery.
- **Establish the Structure for All**: Develop clear expectations for lesson planning, assessment, grading, and feedback that apply across departments and grade levels.
- **Create Core Documents with Basic Components**: Design simple, usable templates and tools that define what standards-based practice looks like in your building.
- **Lead the Same CLT Discussion Across Teams**: Ensure every Collaborative Learning Team (CLT) engages in a consistent, high-impact process focused on standards, student work, and instructional responses.
- **Identify the "Must-Haves"**: Set non-negotiables for instructional practice that support alignment, accountability, and continuous improvement.