

I have a strong desire to create authentic relationships and transform the people and schools I am a part of, indicating that my leadership style and philosophy are that of a transformational leader. I believe in developing and empowering other people to achieve greater things. I have been around several different types of leaders in my life and it seems that the best leaders are the ones that truly care about people. I strive to have a genuineness and authenticity about myself that shows people that I want to lead them to achieve great things, but I also care very deeply about them and want what is best for them as a person. This desire to help people become the best versions of themselves is a key component of why I have a transformational leadership style. A transformational leader tries to be very cognoscente of the desires and goals of their followers and tries to help them reach their fullest potential (Northouse 2019). Having a charismatic personality is another reason why I am a transformational leader. I have an outgoing personality and have an easy time connecting with people which helps me to create authentic relationships. At times, charm and persuasiveness can draw people to transformational leaders because of their influential personality (Maheshwari 2022). Possessing these traits has helped me gain influence and become a leader.

I also believe I possess servant leadership qualities as well. Servant leaders tend to make developing and mentoring people a high priority (Northouse 2019). This concept of helping people develop is near and dear to my heart. I have had great people mentor me and invest into my personal growth over the years, so I am very passionate about doing the same for other people. I find great satisfaction in mentoring people and being a small part of their journey. I also believe I am a servant leader because I have a strong desire to give back to my community. I have been fortunate to be a part of great communities that have supported me and have

contributed to my success. Because I have been supported so much, I fully understand the importance of giving back to the community and being involved.

My personal beliefs and values stem from my Christian faith. Regardless if I am in a private or public-school setting, I will try to live my life and lead in a way that reflects Jesus Christ. In the bible, it is very clear that Jesus cared more about people than tasks. I too want to value the people I come in contact with more than the tasks I have to complete. I understand that it is important to be efficient and complete tasks in a timely manner. However, as I continue in my career as an administrator, I want to be intentional about creating authentic relationships. I know that this may require extra effort and energy at times, but it is worth it. When people feel cared for and valued, they are far more motivated and are able to achieve their fullest potential. My Christian faith is also what drives my decision making. I wear a bracelet on my wrist that says WWJD. This is an acronym for “What Would Jesus Do.” I ask myself that question frequently throughout my day. I try to make decisions that are honest and reflect my Christian faith. I always want to be a leader with integrity. Being a leader with a strong moral compass is something that I take great pride in.

I am committed to building a culture of growth and accountability within my school. Principals and teachers that have reported to have low job satisfaction have also indicated that they work in places where professional development is unlikely to occur (Litchka 2016). I believe if I offer development opportunities and stand alongside my staff as they grow, they will have a higher job satisfaction and be motivated to reach their fullest potential. Although growth sounds appealing, it can often be uncomfortable. I will also strive to create a culture that embraces accountability, so that even during the uncomfortable seasons, people are held accountable and continue to grow.

My philosophy is an emerging model of effective and inspirational leadership because it is predicated on me creating authentic relationships and then utilizing that relationship to help people reach their fullest potential. I am a forward-thinking administrator that can identify potential in others when they sometimes cannot see it in themselves. People want to achieve great things. However, some people don't believe in themselves and lack a plan of action. I am able to inspire people by speaking life into them and creating strategies to help them experience growth.

References

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