

Wrap Up: Looking Forward

Thursday, August 26, 2010

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

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I want my children to understand the world, but not just because the world is fascinating and the human mind is curious. I want them to understand it so that they will be positioned to make it a better place.

-Howard Gardner

Goal

- Using your assignments, consider how you will emerge as a leader after the conclusion of the Summer Leadership Institute.

Agenda

- Assignment 1: Journal Reflections
- Assignment 2: Observed Leadership Traits
- Howard Gardner's Multiple Intelligences Theory
- Assignment 3: Self-assessment
- Project
- Sharing
- Final Thoughts

First Assignment

- Journals
 - In the journals you've received, you were to reflect upon each session and record what you learned in regard to leadership.
 - You were given an option of how you prefer to document your thoughts (writing, drawing, etc.).
 - By the end of the week, you should have an entry documenting what you learned about leadership from each session.

Second Assignment

- Observing Leadership Traits
 - You will be randomly assigned several other students to observe during the week.
 - Get to know the students you're assigned to know and determine what leadership traits each person has. For example, perhaps someone is a good listener or a creative problem solver.
 - Once you have identified a leadership trait for someone, write it down on the sheet of paper with that person's name on it.
 - At the end of this activity, each student will have a sheet of paper listing the various leadership traits others observed.

Howard Gardner

- Who is Howard Gardner?
 - Professor of Cognition and Education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education.
 - Developmental psychologist.
 - Best known for his theory of multiple intelligences.

What is the Theory of Multiple Intelligences?

- The belief that humans possess several different intelligences that reflect different ways of interacting with the world.
- Traditionally, schools (in America, at least) focus on a student's linguistic and mathematical abilities. Those do not succeed in these two areas are often labeled "learning disabled."
- Gardner proposes that there are at least eight intelligences, including linguistic and mathematical and we, as humans, possess varying levels of each intelligence.

Multiple Intelligences

- Linguistic
 - Ability to use language to communicate and understand.
- Logical/Mathematical
 - Ability to use reason, logic, and numbers.
- Visual/Spatial
 - Ability to picture things visually, including exact sizes and shapes of objects.
- Bodily/Kinesthetic
 - Ability to control body movement and handle objects skillfully.
- Musical/Rhythmic
 - Ability to produce and appreciate music.
- Interpersonal
 - Ability to relate to and understand others
- Intrapersonal
 - Ability to self-reflect and be aware of one's inner being
- Naturalistic
 - Ability to relate information to one's natural surroundings.

Leadership

- A good leader knows what his/her strengths are.
- A good leader also knows what his/her weaknesses are and strives to improve upon them.

Third Assignment

- Take a few minutes for a quick self-assessment.
- Write down:
 - What you think your strengths are.
 - What do you think you need to improve upon.

Project

- For this project, you can either choose to utilize your strengths or take this opportunity to focus on areas in need of improvement; choose one or more of the eight multiple intelligences.
- Be creative, be unique, be yourself. Most importantly, have fun!
- Using the information from your three assignments, answer the following question:

How Will You Be a Leader?

- How have you grown this week?
- What kind of leader will you become?
- What do you value?
- What steps will you take towards becoming a leader?
- How will you use what you learned this week when you arrive back home?

Sharing

- Take a few minutes to share your project with the rest of the group.

Final Thoughts