



# What They Don't Teach in Principal School

*The leader's role is to define the purpose, build trust through clear communication and structure, and create the conditions that allow people, culture, and learning to thrive with clarity and consistency.*

## 1. Vision & Purpose

- **Clarify Your Why** – Define the purpose and values guiding leadership.
- **Create Direction for Your School** – Establish clear priorities, expectations, and systems for a strong school culture.
- **Lead with Intentional Impact** – Lead consistently with purpose and focus.

## 2. Trust

- **Build Trust Through Consistency** – Align words, actions, and decisions = expectations.
- **Listen and Value Perspectives** – Create space for honest dialogue & input from your team.
- **Follow Through on Commitments** – Demonstrate reliability and accountability in everyday leadership actions.

## 3. Communication

- **Align Clarity and Consistency** – Messages, expectations, and priorities are aligned
- **Open Channels for Dialogue** – Students, staff, and community have a space for questions.
- **Vision Through Messaging** – Every event, flyer, action sends a clear message.

## 4. Culture & Climate

- **Shape a Positive School Environment** – Staff feel valued, supported, and connected.
- **Reinforce Shared Values and Expectations** – Behaviors reflect the school's purpose and priorities.
- **Conditions for Learning and Growth** – All students and staff feel safe to learn, contribute, and improve.

## 5. Leadership Development

- **Leadership Growth of others** – Provide opportunities for leadership development.
- **Build Capacity Across the Team** – Shared responsibility/ownership of school priorities.
- **Model Continuous Professional Growth** – Commitment to learning, reflection, and improvement in your own leadership.

## 6. Structure

- **Clear Systems and Expectations** – Roles, processes, and priorities support consistent leadership and instruction.
- **Organize Work Around School Priorities** – Align meetings, initiatives, and resources with the goals that matter most.
- **Create Consistency in Daily Practice** – Align all actions on student success.

## 7. Crisis Management

- **Prepare for Challenges** – Develop clear plans and procedures to guide staff & practice them.
- **Lead with Calm and Clarity** – Communicate make thoughtful decisions when needed.
- **Communicate to the Community** – Provide stability, reassurance, and direction.

## 8. Community Engagement

- **Build Strong Community Partnerships** – Foster relationships with families, community members, and organizations for support.
- **Communicate Openly with Stakeholders** – Share information clearly and consistently to build trust and collaboration.
- **Invite Participation in the School's Mission** – Encourage families and community partners to contribute to a shared vision for learning.