Unite, Inspire, Lead
Our Students, Our Union, Our Future

Improving Leadership Through Communication and Collaboration
Delores Price, PhD.

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NEA Strategic Goals

• Elimination of Institutional Racism – Providing strategies for improving communication and promoting collaboration with diverse groups

• Early Career Educator – Support

• Providing leadership strategies for educator empowerment
Communication:
NEA Leadership Competency

• Level 1: Foundational
  • Will demonstrate effective presentation skills when speaking to a variety of audiences

• Level 2: Mobilizing & Power Building
  Will understand and develop the ability to construct presentations that consider the unique needs of diverse constituents
Communication competency
Level 3: Agenda Driving

• Strategies learned will enhance development of delivering persuasive messages; thus empowering the attendee to represent and advance the goals of the association.
NEA Organizational Priority
Early Career Educators/ Institutional Racism/Racial Justice in Education

• Will benefit from this session by learning strategies to enhance their communication and collaboration skills
• Will learn how to practice good communication and collaboration skills; enhancing meaningful listening, cultural awareness and respect; to aid in the goal of eliminating institutional racism.
The content from this session can be used in the following ways in your current position/role:

– 1. Communication & collaboration strategies will aid in ability to serve and lead school committees

– 2. Communication strategies will aid in classroom teaching and interaction with students and peers

– 3. These learned and practiced communication and collaboration strategies will bolster confidence and most likely contribute to increased leadership opportunities
About Me: Delores Price

• Former K-12 Teacher, Television teacher, Counselor, Principal

• University professor, Department chair, Interim Dean,

• Hobbies – Reading, Writing, Collecting art and Traveling

• Finds Inspiration in people and ideas

• Have traveled – Six Continents - South Africa, South America, Europe, Asia, Australia, Canada, Mexico, Jamaica, Virgin Islands, Barbados, Bahamas, etc.
Soweto, South Africa
Mayan Ruins in Mexico
Introductory Activity
Let’s observe some communicators
Michael Strahan
Joel Osteen

Joel Osteen is a native Texan and the Pastor of Lakewood Church, which according to Church Growth Today is America's largest and fastest growing church with over 38,000 attendees and watched by 7 million each week.
Whoopi Goldberg- “The View” Host
Collaborative Skills

- Good Collaboration starts with some of the things we learned as children:
  - Saying “please and thank you”;
  - Listening without interruption when others are talking;
  - Taking turns and;
  - Sharing
Steps to Becoming a Better Communicator

Use the 4 P’s

• 1. Plan

• 2. Prepare

• 3. Perform

• 4. Assess your Proficiencies
Stop and Think

- Identify two people / groups that you have collaborative relationship with?

- Cite two ways in which you can leverage these relationships into opportunities for leadership
How does one become a Leader?

Leaders – Four Categories - Let’s Identify

1) Born into leadership

2) Grow into leadership

3) Thrust into leadership

4) Step into leadership
What do leaders do?
Stepping into Leadership

• Many times leaders do what others won’t do

• They passionately embrace a purpose or a cause and see it through until the end

• They communicate, they collaborate, they do the work
Leaders Pay Attention
“A Guide to Effective Communication”
Katie Francis – 2014 Girl Scout Cookie Sales Champion
What makes Katie a Leader?
• Rain, hail or snow: Katie Francis of Oklahoma City sold 18,107 boxes of Girl Scout cookies in a seven-week sales period,

• Topping the previous mark set by Elizabeth Brinton, who sold approximately 18,000 one year in the 1980s
There are three ingredients to the cookie sale,' Katie told local TV station KOCO.

'It takes lots of time, commitment and asking everybody I see.'

The 'A' student loves to sing and dance, and often did both to get people's attention when she sold cookies.
Coach Ken Carter
Coach Ken Carter

• Required a 2.3 G.P.A. of his athletes, when the state of California required a 2.0

• Locked his basketball team out of practices and games until they improved their grades

• The team forfeited 4 games

• Coach Carter was both hated and revered for his action
So you want to be a leader
Let’s take a test

• When working with groups in an educational setting, you will have many decisions to make about the curriculum, staffing, administration and management of your buildings.

• I have selected three different types of leaders. Look at the three to see where you find yourself, now.

• Select one of these decision-making descriptions.
Leadership Type 1

1. The leader solves the problem or makes the decision using information he/she has available at the time:

   (or)

• The leader obtains the necessary information from team members, then decides the solution.
Leadership Type 2

• The leader shares the problem with relevant team members individually, getting their ideas and suggestions without bringing them together as a group. Then the leader makes the decision that may or may not reflect team member influence:

• (or)

• The leader shares the problem with relevant team members as a group, obtaining their collective ideas and suggestions. Then the leader makes the decision that may or may not reflect team member influence.
Leadership Type 3

• The leader shares the problem with the relevant team members as a group. Together they generate and evaluate alternatives and attempt to reach agreement on a solution.

• The leader’s role is much like that of chairperson.

• The leader does not try to influence the group to adopt a solution and is willing to accept and implement any solution that has support of the entire group.
Remember the 4 P’s

1. Plan
2. Prepare
3. Perform
4. Assess your Proficiencies
Summary - Collaboration

• Can be as easy as introducing yourself to another person
• Works better with good manners and listening skills
• Be open to Diversity
• Do what is best for students and the organization
In Summary
Stepping into Leadership

1. Be courageous – don’t let fear derail you

2. Work for the good of the organization

3. Collaborate with those who are different from you as well as those who are like you

4. No one does it alone

5. You don’t have to have a title to lead
References

• Alabama A & M University, College of Education, Conceptual Framework

• 10 Ways To Enhance Your Team Collaboration Skills, Zwillin, Marty (9/17/2012)

• Internet, Public domain

• Make the Leap and Land on your Feet: Tens Transitional Strategies for Moving into Administration, Delores Price (5/2004)
References

• Yes Ma’am, No Sir: The 12 Essential Steps for Success in Life, Coach Carter

• You Don’t Need A Title to Be A Leader, Mark Sanborn, Doubleday, 2006
Conclusion – Question and Answers

• Thank you for attending!
Improving Leadership Through Communication and Collaboration

• Please complete the evaluation for this breakout session!

• Please visit the Leadership Development Resources website at
  www.nea.org/leadershipdevelopment