

Principles of Leadership

Meeting Days: Tuesday and Friday 6:30 - 7:20

Teacher: Ms. Zebrack-Smith

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Office Hours:

Mornings: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 6:30 - 7:15 am

Afternoons: Monday, Tuesday, 2:00 - 3:00 pm

Course Description: The class is primarily experientially based and emphasizes the importance of communication, character, personal growth, and building strong relationships in teams. Also covered will be listening skills, synergy, perceptions, conflict styles, personality, and group formation. A variety of initiatives will be used to facilitate the learning of skills and, along with various media, reinforce those skills throughout the year.

Course Learning Targets/Power Standards:

1. Leadership is the skill of influencing others to enthusiastically do your will, for the common good, because of your personal influence.
2. Authority/Influence is a skill based on serving and sacrificing for others where as power is an ability based on force, position, status, might, etc.
3. Love is not how you feel towards others, but behave towards others by meeting their legitimate needs not wants.
4. You are born with your personality, but you can choose your character daily through the thousands of choices you make daily.
5. Intentions + Actions = Will (which is a choice)

Attendance Expectations:

Assisting students in establishing lifelong habits of reliability and promptness is an instructional objective in this particular course. Progress towards this goal will be measured, at least in part, by tracking student attendance. Therefore, a student's grade or credit in this class may be adversely affected by reason of tardiness or absence.

Homework:

Students will have daily classwork with occasional homework and will be required to keep a 3-ring binder. Students are encouraged to have regular conversations with family members and friends about the concepts and topics being learned in this class.

Required Assignments:

- Maintain a Leadership Notebook
- Complete a minimum of 10 checklist items per semester
- 8 Essentials Mid-term
- Classwork
- Occasional Homework
- Assessments
- Attendance-so important since everything is done in class

Grading:

All grading is based on points. I use the required Tesla STEM percentages for determining grades. I do not round. If you find a mistake on Skyward, you have two weeks to see me about fixing it. Otherwise the grade remains as is.

Foundation of Class: Leadership begins with the will, which is our unique ability as human beings to align our intentions with our actions and choose our behavior. With the proper will, we can choose to love, the verb, which is about identifying and meeting the legitimate needs, not wants, of those we lead. When we meet the needs of others we will, by definition, be called upon to serve and even sacrifice. When we serve and sacrifice for others, we build authority or influence. When we build authority with people, then we have earned the right to be called a leaders. (from The Servant by James C. Hunter)

Leadership class will emphasize character, relationship building and learning to work from the inside out. Students will become more self-aware and be able to translate that awareness into how to deal with and perceive others. The majority of conclusions will be reached individually.

Challenge by choices is foundational to the philosophy of the class.