Leading Together: Supporting the Conditions for Optimal Learning for All

Dr. Santiago Rincón-Gallardo



Collapse





Boss ≠ Leader

Hierarchical Authority

Arrogance

Commands

Demands Compliance

Pursues Personal Interest

Silences dissidence

Moral Authority

Humility

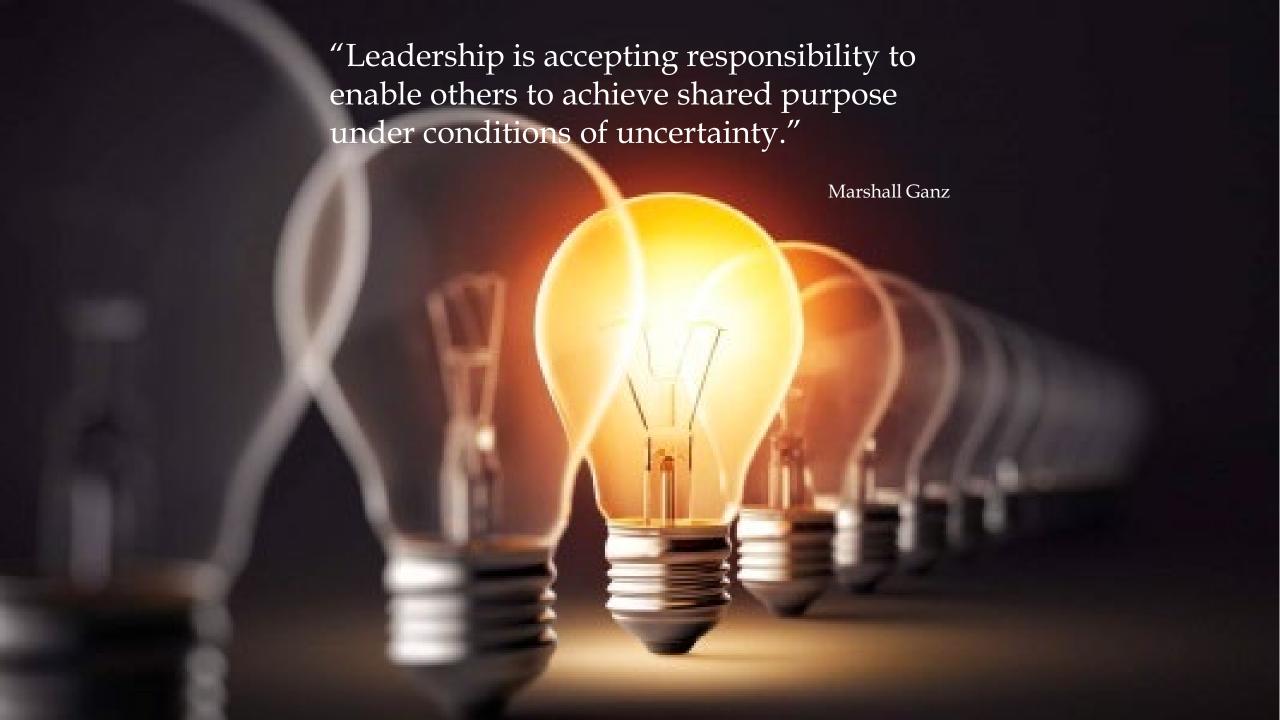
Inspires

Sets the Example

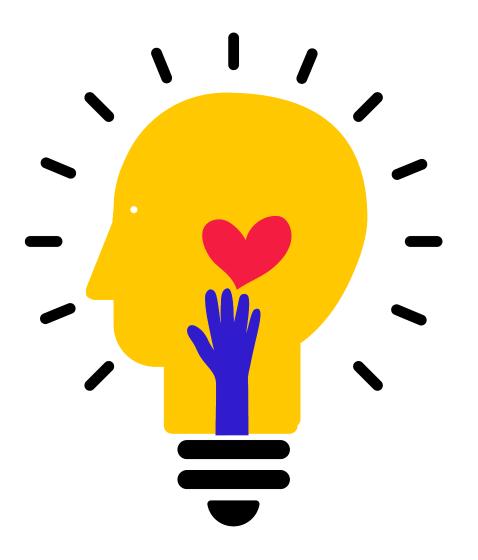
Protects Collective Interest

Learns from dissidence









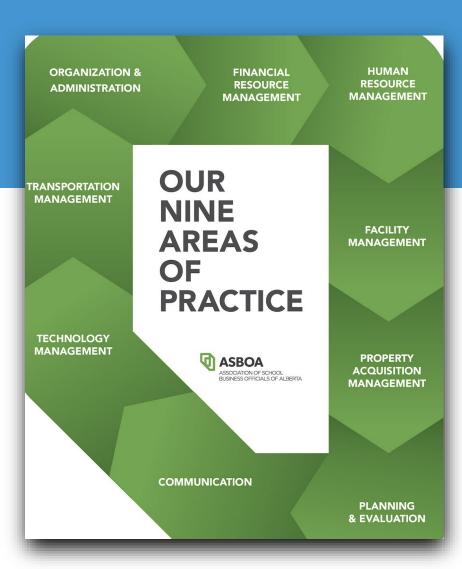
Learning Continuously

Forging Unity of Purpose

Developing Collaborative Capacity

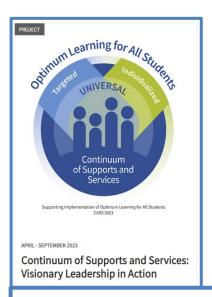




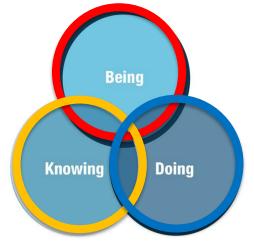






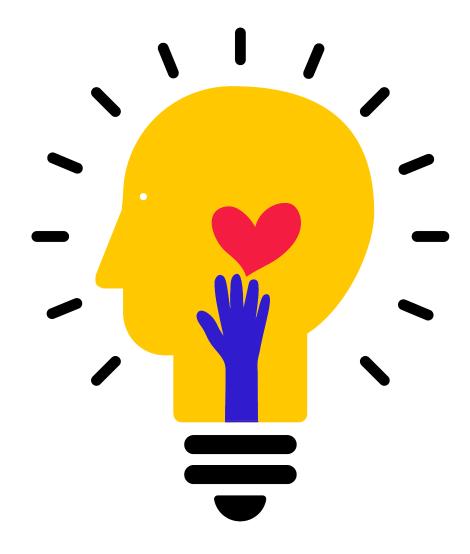












Effective District Leadership: Domains of Action and Essential Practices

Prioritizing Improvement of Teaching and Learning

Building Capacity through Support and Accountability

Sustaining an Open and Collaborative Culture

Promoting Systemwide Learning Building Effective Relationships
Modeling Commitment to Professional Learning
Visionary Leadership
Leading Learning
Ensuring First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education for All Students
School Authority Operations and Resources
Supporting Effective Governance

Anderson, S. & Rincon-Gallardo, S. (2021) *Learning to Lead School Districts Effectively: A Literature Review*. Cincinnati, OH: Systems Development and Improvement Center, University of Cincinnati

Practice Profile: Domains of Action and Essential Practices

Prioritizing Improvement of Teaching and Learning

- Learning and Pedagogy: Vision and Goals
- Theory of Action
- System coherence

Building Capacity through Support and Accountability

- Attract, support, retain talent
- Developing capacity for inclusive instructional leadership
- Develop cultures of effective collaboration

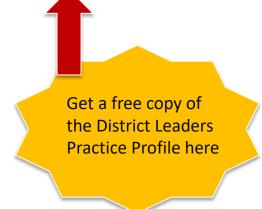
Sustaining an Open and Collaborative Culture

- Trust and reciprocal accountability
- Effective collaboration and shared leadership between central office and schools
- Connect and collaborate laterally and upward

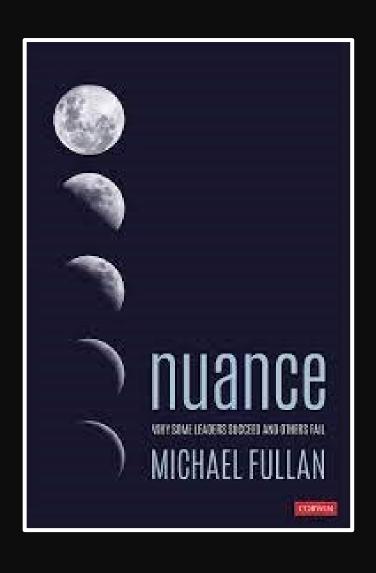
Promoting Systemwide Learning

- Support and model learning
- Develop, test, and refine a theory of action
- Use evidence to hold schools and the district reciprocally accountable





Contextual Literacy



When the context changes, you become automatically *deskilled*

Michael Fullan, 2019

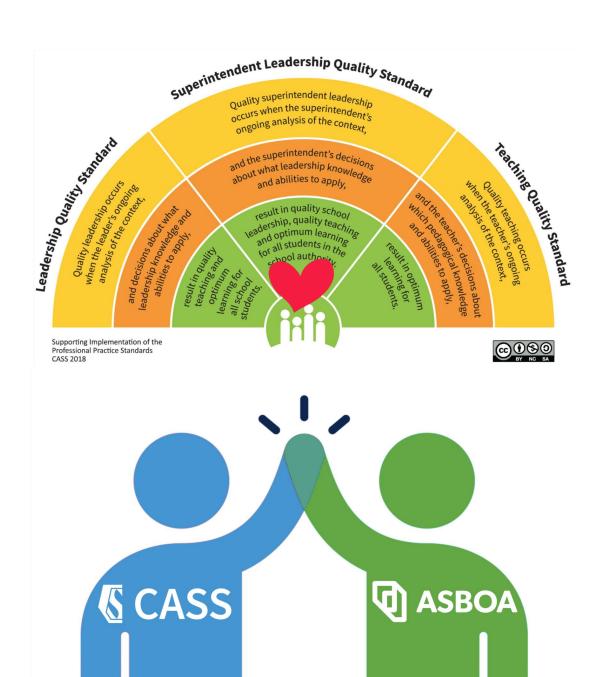




"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about."

Margaret J. Wheatley







Why Educate?

Children, youth and adults who:

- Know themselves
- Think and learn by themselves
- Take care of themselves, others, and the planet
- Better the world



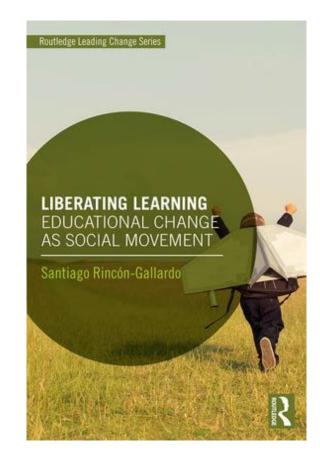
What of this WHY is captured in our understanding of 'optimum learning'?



"Learning is the ability to consciously modify understandings, beliefs, and actions in response to evidence, experience, and reflection."

Richard Elmore, 2019

"Learning is the process and the result of making sense of questions that matter to us"



Learning to be taught



Learning to Learn

LEARNING

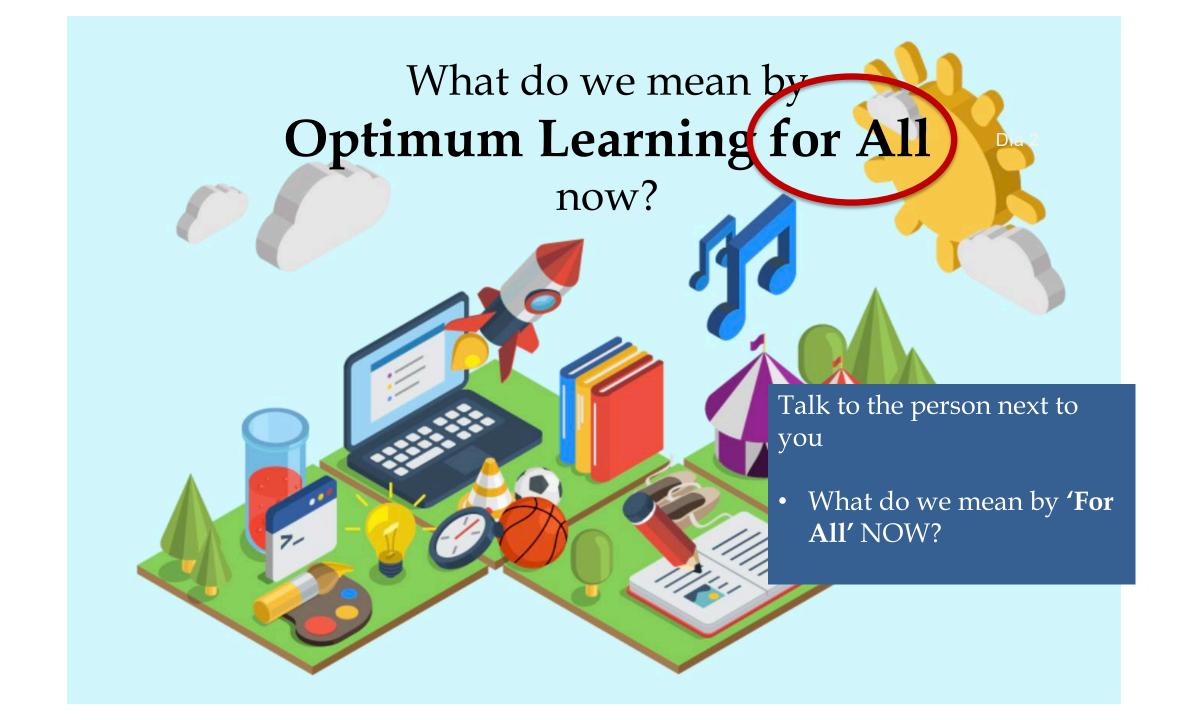
The ability to recall and repeat information and algorithms in a precise and appropriate manner.

The ability to intentionally modify understandings , beliefs and behaviors in response to evidence , experience , and reflection .

The process and result of making sense of questions that matter to us

Which version of learning best describes our understanding of 'optimum learning'?







"Ethics is how we behave when we decide that we belong together."

David Steindl-Rast

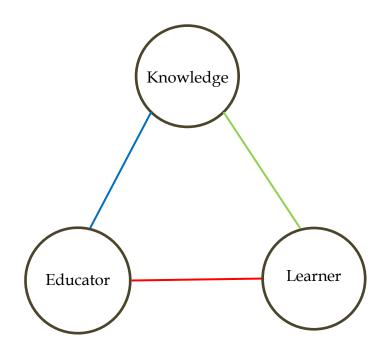
Equity as Solidarity

Equity as Condescension

Equity as...

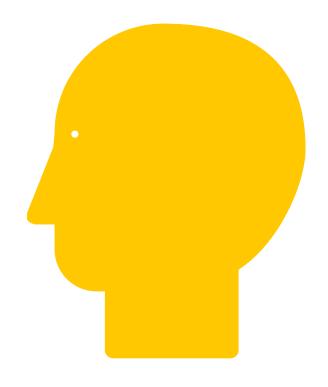
CONDESCENDENSION	SOLIDARITY
for those historically marginalized	with those historically marginalized
the minimum acceptable	the best possible
catching up with the old game of schooling	take the lead with the new game of learning
narrow achievement goals	holistic development
lack/disadvantage	assets/ opportunities
diversity as nuisance	diversity as value

The Pedagogical Core



...key arena for learning
... key arena for wellbeing
... key arena for equity
... key arena for democracy

The influence of effective leaders on the pedagogical core is indirect, but intentional.



Effective pedagogy and leadership, in three lines

The most effective teachers learn alongside their students (Hattie, 2012)

The most effective school leaders learn alongside their teachers (Robinson, 2011)

The most effective education systems learn alongside their

schools (Johnson et al, 2015)



"A Lead Learner creates the conditions for everyone to learn while learning alongside them about what works and what doesn't."

Michael Fullan





Superintendent Leadership Quality Standard

Quality superintendent leadership occurs when the superintendent's ongoing analysis of the context, and the superintendent's decisions about what leadership knowledge and abilities to apply, result in quality school leadership, quality teaching and optimum learning for all students in the school authority.

ALBERTA EDUCATION MINISTERIAL ORDER #003/2020



Leadership Quality Standard

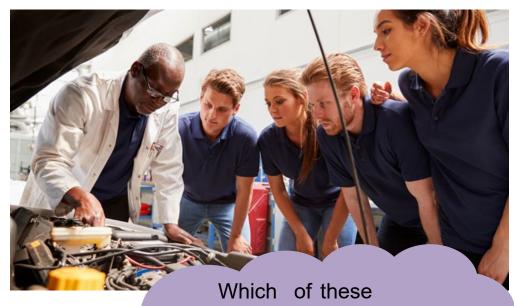
Quality leadership occurs when the leader's ongoing analysis of the context, and decisions about what leadership knowledge and abilities to apply, result in quality teaching and optimum learning for all school students.

ALBERTA EDUCATION MINISTERIAL ORDER #002/2020

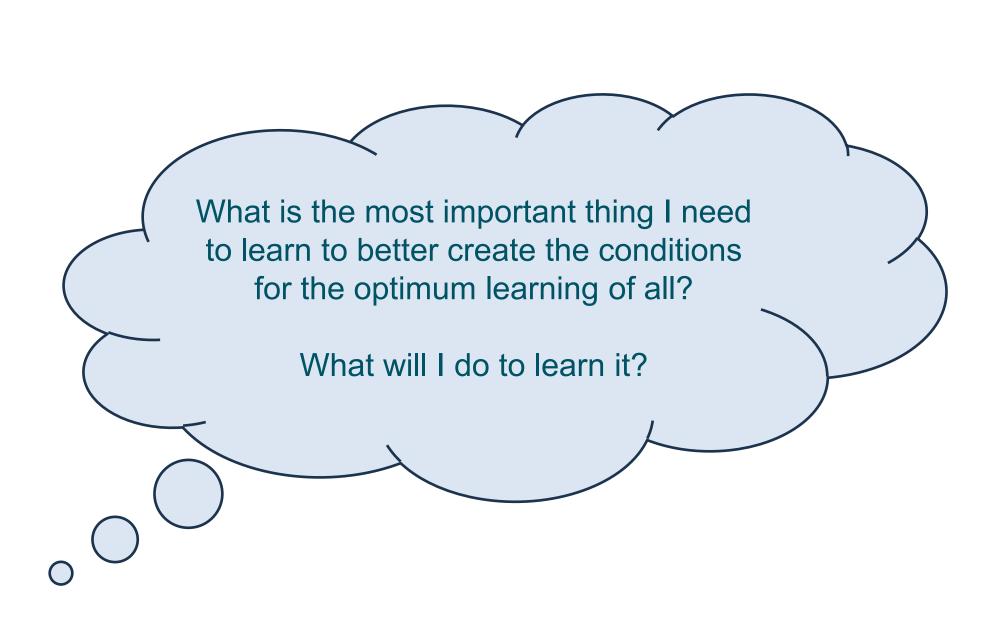


Key conditions for powerful learning

- Interest
- Exposure
- Practice
- Feedback
- Reflection
- Collaboration



conditions am I
creating and leveraging
for my own learning
and growth as lead
learner?





Effective professional learning



"changes leader and teacher practice in ways that make a difference to the learning and wellbeing of their students."

Viviane Robinson

Effective collaboration

Enhances and deepens student learning

Strengthens the professional capacity of teachers and leaders

Contributes to the improvement of the larger system

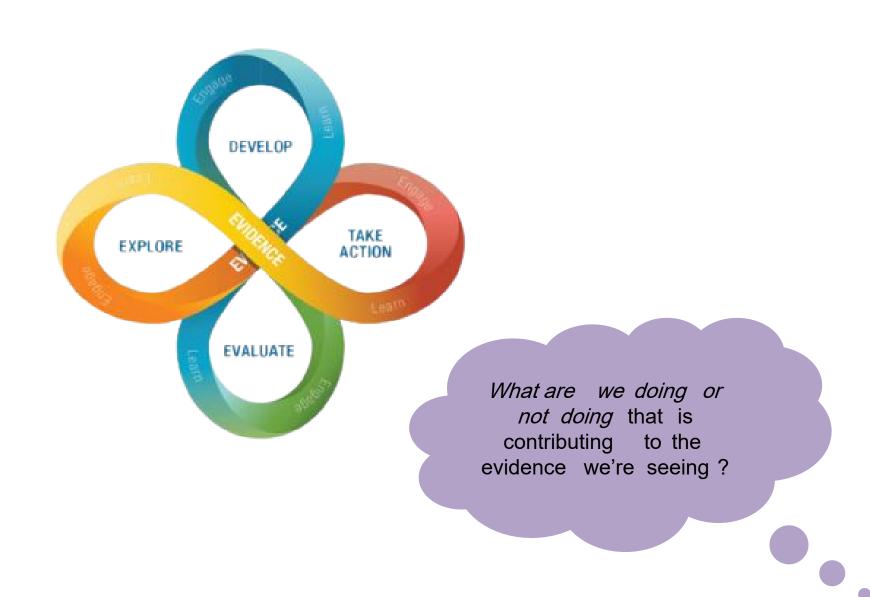


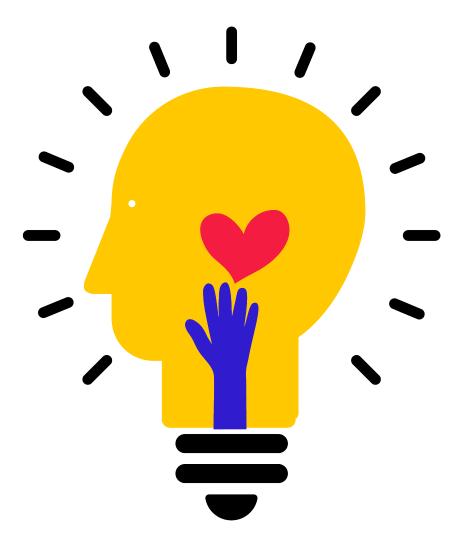
Change travels at the speed of trust



Stephen M. R. Covey, 2008

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT CYCLE

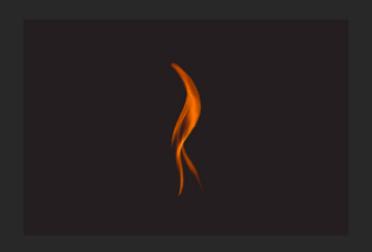




Act, Learn, and Improve Continuously

Clarify your WHY. Use it as your compass

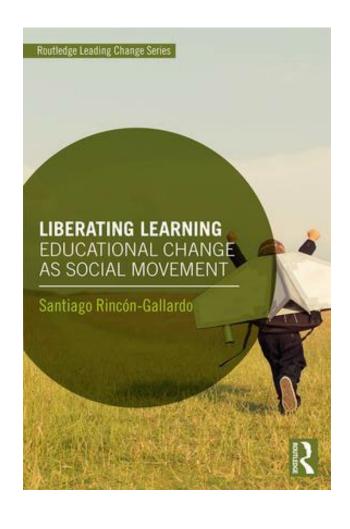
Develop your and your group's capacity to collaborate effectively



Keeping our and our children's power to learn alive







Thank you!



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