

EDU 5743 – Educational Planning
Professor Kevin McGuire

This course started with Professor McGuire raising the bar by challenging us to set and demonstrate high expectations for our students. One critical problem existing in low achieving schools is that the ceiling has been set far too low to cause our constituents to reach higher heights. We must overcome the resistance and move mountains to reach our goal of a high achieving community. Professor McGuire eloquently used Jim Collins' book "Good to Great" to bring the lesson home. This was very significant to me since I had been blessed to have my school named as a "Blue Ribbon School". I felt that we were good, but this course made me understand that good was not good enough. Our goal must be to become great. In order to achieve this goal, change usually must happen. This is where the resistance from content stakeholders usually started. The characteristics of a good administrator became part of our guiding thoughts at this time because first and foremost they must be persistent. There must be a goal in front of them and every effort must be made to reach that goal.

This class also dealt with the components of a Comprehensive District Educational Plan and the development of a plan. This course helped solidify the need of educational leaders to be visionaries and to hold to that shared vision as you attempt to move a district forward.