

EDU 5415 – Introduction to Educational Administration  
Professors Frank Smith and Kevin McGuire

In the genesis of our program, Dr. Smith and Dr. McGuire immediately introduced our cohort to the five chapter process for writing a dissertation. This process reoccurred throughout the classes that followed. We were also challenged to look at models that could be duplicated and thus could stand the test of time.

It was also during this class that we had our first look at demographics and the placement of schools. This was done through our exercise of Elmstown which questioned the placement of schools and supplied us with data that immediately caused us to think outside the box. This segued into our discussion on school cultures which examined the underlying philosophies behind the way schools operate. In the end it was concluded that there has to be a pattern of beliefs that make up different school cultures and that each school must answer what it means to:

1. Know
2. Work
3. Authority(Why)

They each must also decide:

- How they view leadership
- How they go about community building.

**DISCUSSED MODELS**

Collection	I hire good people, they do their own thing, it adds up to something good
Vital	Interested in inquiry, research – Driven to make themselves better
Illusion	Cordial but ineffective

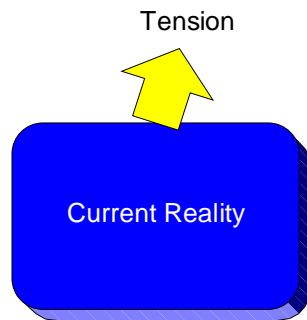
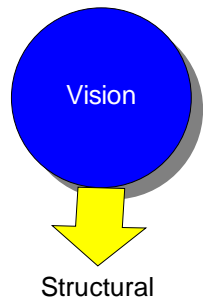
Tech	Talk about problems but not about student learning (parking lots, coffee, ect.)
Constructive	Deals with mission of the school

Introduction to Educational Administration concluded that school leaders:

- Must lead in communicating an understanding about the school.
- Must listen, but provide a framework for understanding.
- Must be results oriented
- Must care about people
- Leadership can be defined as balancing continuity and change.

#### **Books used doing this class**

1. **“Not by Bread Alone”**
2. **“The Heart of Change”**
3. **“Failure is not an Option”**
4. **“First Things First”**
5. **“Reframing Organizations”**



Effective school leadership comes about through

**Instruction, Organization, Culture**