

Welcome!

We are very excited you will be participating in the pilot of the LEAD Denton Leadership Academy. This is an opportunity to work alongside committee mentors who play a vital role on our campuses and within our community. Our commitment to each of you is to challenge your thinking and build upon the leadership skills you already possess.

Identifying and developing your strengths will become a critical element of this journey. With this in mind, we have provided a copy of *Strength Finder 2.0*. A text designed to holistically track and hone in on your strengths which may have been hidden. Our platform will be designed around the leadership vision of LEAD Denton and will focus on the themes the committee has developed. Ultimately, this lends to the mission of LEAD Denton to “Develop leadership capacity to improve organizational effectiveness and promote a culture of learning and engagement for all stakeholders.”

The implementation of our program is to provide a professional learning and leadership experience centered around four themes or modules: Reflection and Self-Discovery, Connections Building Relationships, Leadership Capacity and Behaviors, and Nuts and Bolts - Operational. Your academy experiences will be quintessential as you prepare for a leadership role in the future, no matter what role you choose to pursue. Participants will reflect on and critically analyze their own practice to guide future actions and career choices. Participation in LEAD Denton should not be considered a guaranteed path to an administrative position in Denton ISD.

Our goal is to meet monthly and collaborate throughout the duration of the program with a seamless transition between modules. Participants will be provided additional texts at no cost to you as well as other activities including shadowing, journaling, and relevant leadership scenarios. In addition to the journal and texts provided, activities have been developed and those participants will be required to spend 4 days in assigned activities off campus (2 educational leave days and 2 of your own personal days). Again, all materials for LEAD Denton will be provided at no cost to you.

Our ‘Introductory Kick-off’ meeting for LEAD Denton will be held at the PDC Pecan Room on December 7th at 5:15 p.m. and dinner will be provided. Additional monthly meetings will be held at Central Services in the Board Room from 5:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. as follows: January 11, 2016, February 22, 2016, March 21, 2016, April 18, 2016, and May 16, 2016 (dinner provided). A final reflective session has been scheduled on June 6, 2016 following the Administrator Breakfast which will be held at the PDC Pecan Room and cordially invite you to attend the breakfast.

Please plan to bring your own device and your LEAD Denton journal (provided) for each activity and meeting. As you prepare for the ‘Introductory Meet and Greet’, please read the enclosed *Strengths Finder 2.0* and complete the strengthsfinder assessment using your unique code found in the back of the text prior to our December 7, 2015 meeting and dinner. Please be prepared to share your strengths.

Again, we are very excited you have decided to join our committee mentors and welcome you to the experience of a lifetime!

Respectfully,
LEAD Denton Mentor Committee