Forum 1

One leadership style that I tend to lean towards is a democratic style. This type of leadership style is the ability to distribute responsibility among the membership, to empower the group members and aid in the groups decision making process. Relationships develop because of this style that lets all have a say in the outcome. I feel when all participants have a say in how and what they have to do to complete a task the more buy-in there will be as a whole. Allowing this opportunity even if their idea is not accepted may be all the people really want. I like to hear from others about decisions that need to be made or how a decision went in the past to understand all the implications that decision had.

Another leadership style that I default to is laissez-faire leadership style. This style is often referred to as delegated leadership, this type of leadership style is hands off. This allows the subordinates to do the work without having to take directions from a superior. As long as the work is being completed in a timely manner, how the work is accomplished is not as big of worry. In a professional setting such as a school, I would hope I can use this type of leadership style with my teachers. I want to be aware of what is happening and understand why the teachers are doing what they are doing but I want them to have the professionalism to decide how they are going to teach their students. I will keep an eye on the results to see if what they are doing is effective and then have conversations about what is happening to address these issues.

These two leaderships styles can be help accomplish the following quote, "Visionary principals and superintendents can create team loyalty, ideas, goals, and shared dreams (Hoyle 1995). Dreams cannot be made for others and I believe if professionals are allowed to have a say in important school decisions that keeps the students first and foremost, all of these areas will happen in the school building.

I really appreciate Hoyle, English and Steffy, organizing this reading the way they did. I realize every area of their article is valuable but establishing credibility first would be a major indicator of success in the future. Leading with a vision, knowing policy and state/local governance and then being able to communicate the importance of abiding by these areas to the stakeholders is very important.

Lastly, leading professional educators through the process of effective teaching will be of high importance. I view my future role as being someone who will help develop educators to be the best they can be. I want to be able to identify needs and help educators identify their own needs and then get them connected to the right person or information to meet those needs. I really like how involving the stakeholders in the process will promote continuous change to meet the needs of the students. Collaborative leadership, stakeholder focus and connectivity and linkage to outside support will have a lasting impact on the school environment (pg. 93-94).

Hoyle, J.R., English, F.W., & Steffy, B.E., (1998). Skills for successful 21st century school leaders: Standards for peak performers. Arlington, VA: American Association of School Administrators. Retrieved September 17, 2017, from <http://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED420911.pdf>