



College of

Education

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Leading Tips

"Little moments, big impact."

WSU College of Education Educational Leadership Program is committed to quality leadership during this time of uncertainty and new circumstances. "Leading Tips" is a quick resource for educational leaders.

"Lead Authentically" by Sharon Kruse

School leadership is never easy. Leading when things are uncertain when people are stressed and anxious, is even harder. Yet, strong leadership is essential and, when done well, results in better outcomes for everyone, including teachers, parents, students. What do you need to do to lead well? Here are a few things you can do to help others find their way in uncertain times:

- **Be authentic/show up.** Let people know you're learning here too. When leaders authentically show up, share of themselves, and offer their lessons learned, it reminds everyone around you that they're enough, and they can get through this as well. It stresses the idea that we are all in this together, and together we will navigate what these challenging times put in front of us.
- **Be flexible/show that you can stretch.** When leaders adapt, they free up space for others to adapt as well. We're not suggesting that anything goes—clearly, we want kids engaged in safe, motivating learning. However, we are suggesting that by demonstrating that you, too, can accommodate and think a bit outside the box, others can find in themselves the space to think and respond creatively as well.
- **Be empathic/show compassion.** Simply put, people want to know they matter. When leaders take the time to stop and listen, to seek understanding, and to show consideration for others, people hear and feel that they matter. In turn, their stress is diminished, and they are better able to step up and be who they need to be for others as well.
- **Be self-compassionate/show yourself some kindness.** Leaders are people too, and uncertain times push all our buttons as well. Take moments for yourself, go outside, walk, breathe, eat well. Doing so will prepare you for your next challenging moment.

Your Statewide Educational Leadership Team...



Shannon Calderone
Ph.D./Ed.D. Programs
Tri-Cities



Kathleen Cowin
Principal/Program
Cert.
Tri-Cities



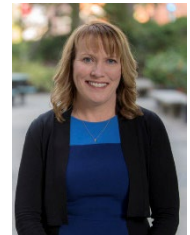
John Mancinelli
Ed. Outreach &
Partnerships
Tri-Cities



Sharon Kruse
Department Chair
Vancouver



Glenys Hill
Superintendent
Program
Vancouver



Kristin Huggins
Vancouver



Jeff Walls
Spokane



Richard Sawyer
Vancouver



Thomas Opstad
Vancouver



Katherine Rodela
Vancouver