



Principals' Institute

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OVERVIEW

In 2010, the [Principals' Institute](#) (PI) was established with an emphasis on operationalizing the work of the superintendents' Visioning Institute and its product, [Creating a New Vision for Public Education in Texas](#) (Visioning Document). PI is a year-long professional development series that works with principals to understand why transformation of public education is necessary, and develop the knowledge and skills required to lead and build the capacity to sustain transformation over time. The future of Texas public schools depends on the quality of its leaders. Attending PI allows principals to experience one of the most noteworthy professional growth opportunities in their career and collaborate with the innovative PI network that now stretches nationwide.

PARTICIPANTS

Each year a new cohort group of approximately 60 principals joins the elite group of educational leaders from across Texas who have participated in PI. Since its beginning, nearly 300 have attended based on their superintendent's nomination. The PI network expands to superintendents; speakers such as Alan November, Rob Evans, and George Couros; and statewide leadership representing TASA, TEPSA, and TASSP.

LOGISTICS

PI is held over the course of a school year in a series of 6, 2-day meetings that rotate locations between Austin, Dallas, and Houston.

CHARGE

With guidance from PI leadership and facilitators, participants are expected to know the Visioning Document and work to operationalize it, transform leadership, provide innovative learning opportunities, connect/collaborate with the PI network, and be reflective leaders.

SESSIONS

Session 1: Charge, establish culture for the cohort group, study articles of the Visioning Document and other relevant publications, choose accountability partners, introduce Twitter as a resource, introduce blogging as a means of reflection

Session 2: Guest speaker Alan November, focus on adding value to the learning environment, inspire creative and innovative thinking, leading change, encourage informal campus visits

Session 3: Guest speaker Rob Evans, coping with the real-life issues related to leading change, collaboration

Session 4: Personal reflections, change, building collegiality, identifying implications of change, superintendent voice, principals as advocates for education, legislative update (in partnership with TASA Midwinter Conference)

Session 5: Student voice, develop individual implementation plans that focus on transformation, ongoing connections

Session 6/Summer Conference: Participants from all cohort groups invited to attend; discussions, keynote speaker, participant presentations sharing campus work as a result of PI, roundtable and panel discussions

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TESTIMONIALS As I begin my 27th year in public education I can say without hesitation that being a part of Visioning Institute has been the most beneficial opportunity for professional growth I have experienced. Not only has my thinking been stretched but I now have a new network of colleagues who are on the cutting edge of transforming public education in Texas.

-Alan Nickson, Amarillo ISD

Being a member of the Texas Principals' Institute has been the BEST experience of my professional career. Through the Institute, I was able to collaborate and establish relationships with some of the top principals in the state. I am so thankful to my superintendent for sending me on such a worthwhile journey. I am a better leader and principal for it!

-Angie Davis, Waller ISD

The Principals' Institute was the most valuable professional learning experience that I have ever had as a leader. It was authentic, purposeful, relevant, and focused on the needs of students and staff. It equipped me with the necessary tools to be a transformational leader who is ready to transform public education in Texas.

-Dr. Sanee Bell, Katy ISD

Being a part of the Principals' Institute has been the best professional development experience I have had since becoming an administrator. As a result of the Principals' Institute my thinking about public schools has been stretched to the max and I have been challenged to make in-depth examinations of how public education looks currently versus how it could and should look in my school.

-Jeff Mann, College Station ISD

The Principals Institute has given me an incredible network of innovative principals who are transforming education in the state of Texas. I leave each session inspired and energized with creative ideas, new insights, and boundless admiration for my colleagues.

-Dr. Laurie Hitzelberger, Highland Park ISD

The Principal's Institute has pushed my personal expectation bar higher. It has provided a network of strong professional resources, most of which are doing the same job that I am. It has made me think and reflect about my practice, and the path that I need to take toward supporting new ideas and initiatives in my building in the best interest of students and the future of our community.

-Charles Bruner, Richardson ISD

Participating in the Principal's Visioning Institute has been one of the highlights of my career. I left each session feeling re-energized, more grounded in the vision for 21st century schools, and more confident in my abilities at leading transformation on my campus. It truly was the ultimate gift!

-Kristi King, Northwest ISD

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