



The Five Disciplines of PLC Leaders

By Timothy D. Kanold, Foreword by Richard DuFour

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Finalist--Association of Educational Publishers 2012 Distinguished Achievement Award

Just as it takes discipline to successfully run a marathon or to master a musical instrument, effective leadership in a professional learning community (PLC) requires more than simply trying harder: it requires training. In *The Five Disciplines of PLC Leaders*, Dr. Kanold provides a complete, focused system of practices for honing personal leadership skills in the five areas that will have the greatest impact on a school organization's success. PLC leaders must create a compelling vision, allow autonomy within defined boundaries, lead by serving, manage their personal energy levels, and inspire others to create a legacy of excellence.

Dr. Kanold digs deep into the critical questions leaders must ask themselves and the practices they must master and model for others. Using research and decades of experiences working in PLCs, he shows leaders how to develop their own leadership skills while also helping others build leadership capacity. This rich resource includes reflection exercises and study guides to help readers find their own path toward effective PLC leadership.

Benefits

- * Helps educators to clarify their personal vision for the PLC and align daily practices with their goals
- * Explores strategies for cultivating individual and team-level autonomy within a culture of accountability and high expectations
- * Shows how to create a culture of service that begins with the leader
- * Explains how to lead a balanced work life that energizes self and others
- * Describes how to foster networks of commitment within the community

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Editorial Review

Review

This is not a book to skim. It is a book that will require you to think, to reflect deeply on the questions that all PLC leaders must answer, to confront the brutal facts of your own leadership, and ultimately to develop new skills and knowledge vital to your success and the success of your school or district. It is a book that you will return to over and over again to explore its wisdom and advice. --from the foreword by Richard DuFour

In *The Five Disciplines of PLC Leaders*, Tim Kanold has given us a practical, thoughtful and inspiring guide to PLC leadership. Every page is richly informed by Kanold's immense and successful experience: We get a personal, inside look at how Adlai Stevenson set and met ambitious achievement goals including the goal of making Stevenson an exceptionally purpose-driven and enjoyable place to work. Any school leader who takes Kanold's recommendations seriously will see levels of achievement, staff morale and student satisfaction climb upward. --Mike Schmoker, author of *FOCUS: Elevating the Essentials to Radically Improve Student Learning* and *Results NOW: How We Can Achieve Unprecedented Improvements in Teaching and Learning*

It has been over a decade since professional learning communities (PLCs) were recognized as a paradigm of learning. What is the difference between those schools that have adopted PLCs in name only and those that have flourished as centers of learning excellence? Tim Kanold has captured the actionable, disciplined steps to sustain fully functional PLCs. Whether you are a teacher, school administrator, or superintendent, leaders at all levels who value research-based, thought-provoking ideas from one who has practiced what he offers will find that *The Five Disciplines of PLC Leaders* will support their work to move adult actions to 21st century learning environments. --Jhone Ebert, Assistant Superintendent Chief Technology Officer, Clark County School District, Nevada

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About the Author

Timothy D. Kanold, PhD, is an award-winning educator, in-demand speaker, and educational leader. He is former director of mathematics and science, and served for five years as superintendent of Adlai E. Stevenson High School District 125, a model professional learning community district in Lincolnshire, Illinois. Dr. Kanold is director of E2-PLC Learning Group, a professional development learning team committed to equity and excellence for students, faculty, and school administrators. He conducts professional development leadership seminars worldwide with a focus on systematic change initiatives that create greater equity and access for all students.

He is a past president of the National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics (NCSM) and coauthor of several best-selling mathematics textbooks over the past 20 years. He has served on writing commissions for NCTM and was the lead writer and executive editor for the task force development of *The PRIME Leadership Framework: Principles and Indicators for Mathematics Education Leaders* by NCSM. He has authored numerous articles and chapters on school leadership and development for education publications.

Dr. Kanold received the prestigious international 2010 Damen Award for outstanding contributions to the field of education from Loyola University Chicago, 1982 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, 1991 Outstanding Young Alumni Award (from Illinois State University), 2001 Outstanding Alumni Award (from Addison Trail High School), and 1994 Outstanding Administrator Award (from the Illinois State Board of Education).

Dr. Kanold earned a bachelor's degree in education and a master's degree in mathematics from Illinois State University. He completed a master's in educational administration at the University of Illinois and received a doctorate in educational leadership and counseling psychology from Loyola University Chicago.

Dr. Kanold's blog, *Turning Vision Into Action*, can be found at tkanold.blogspot.com. Follow him on Twitter at twitter.com/#tkanold.

Users Review

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