



The Jewish Education Center Of Cleveland's Óã-- a newsletter for educators

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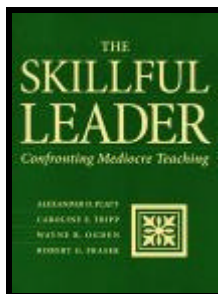
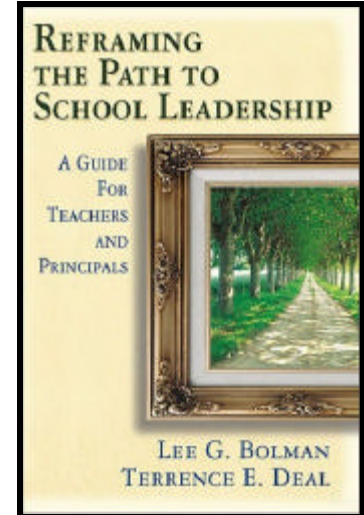
June 14, 2002

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Leadership

Reframing the Path to School Leadership: A Guide for Teachers and Principals, by Lee G. Bolman and Terrence E. Deal (Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin Press, 2002).

One of the heavily-worn bibles used by leaders is Bolman and Deal's classic, *Reframing Organizations*. Written for the general world, but helpful to educators, it introduces four ways of framing issues of the workplace: political, human resource, structural and symbolic. Now, much to the delight of teachers and principals, Bolman and Deal have written a slim, but engaging guide for those in the educational world. Through the stories of a "composite" novice teacher and principal, and their fictional interactions with "old & new guards" in their settings, the authors offer a lens to educators for reframing school-based situations from multiple perspectives. The authors believe that examining issues through these four frames, leaders see new possibilities, becoming more versatile and effective in their responses. With its conversational, easy-going tone, this book is a great summer read.

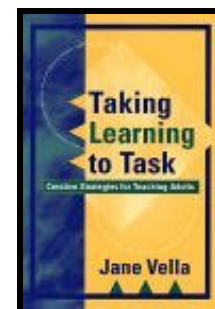


The Skillful Leader: Confronting Mediocre Teaching, by Alexander D. Platt, Caroline E. Tripp, Wayne R. Ogden and Robert G. Fraser (Acton, MA: Ready About Press, 2000).

Detailed, without being pedantic, *The Skillful Teacher*, provides a definition of mediocre teaching, "case study" examples, and very clear steps for an educational leader to help a marginal teacher improve. In the hands of a serious leader, this volume that is filled with examples, strategies, explanations and check lists, benefits students who deserve quality learning experiences in our schools.

Taking Learning to Task: Creative Strategies for Teaching Adults, by Jane Vella (San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2002).

Small and compact, this book offers a clear strategy for engaging adult learners. With a focus on learning tasks ("open questions put to learners who have all the resources they need to respond"), the author offers a step-by-step planning process for those who would like to move beyond teaching-as-telling. Directly applicable to the work of adult and family educators, with bountiful examples, this concept of teaching is applicable to classrooms of any age span. Highly recommended.



-Reviewed by Nachama Skolnik Moskowitz, Director of Curriculum Resources

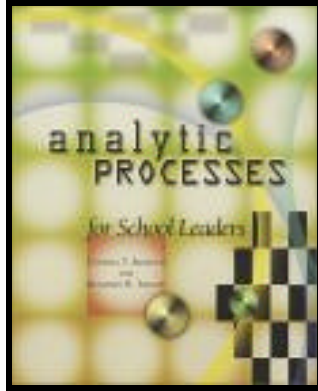
Online leadership journals: (selected articles available)

Educational Leadership - <http://www.ascd.org/frameedlead.html>

Phi Delta Kappan - <http://www.pdkintl.org/kappan/kappan.htm>

Principal Magazine - <http://www.naesp.org/comm/principalmag.htm>

- Maury Greenberg, Director, Technology Resources & Professional Development

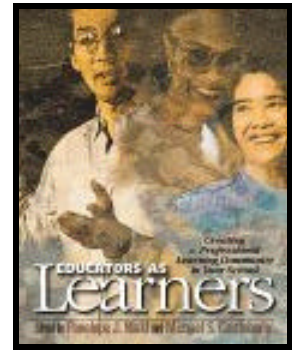


Analytic Processes for School Leaders, by Cynthia T. Richetti and Benjamin B. Tregoe (Virginia: ASCD, 2001).

Why is it that some people make better decisions than others? Richetti and Tregoe assert that better decision makers follow better decision-making processes. Based on four rational thinking processes (decision analysis, potential problem analysis, problem analysis and situational appraisal), the authors explain how educators can use the analytic process to handle common types of situations, including when something goes wrong or when a choice needs to be made. Throughout the book, key questions are asked and then answered using administrative and classroom examples. This book is useful for teachers and school administrators in all settings.

Educators as Learners: Creating a Professional Learning Community in Your School, by Michael S. Castleberry and Penelope J. Wald (Virginia: ASCD, 2000).

A community of learners is a community whose one condition of membership is that one be a learner. This includes students, teachers, principals, parents and support staff. So how do you create this community? Through explicit examples, rich activities and thoughtful commentary, *Educators as Leaders* offers a lesson plan for members of a school or school system to transform their institution into a learning community. Appropriate for all settings.



Melissa Ballin Bernstein, Curriculum Associate

Websites

The Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) has a wonderful website for educational leaders. Membership has wonderful benefits, including their journal, *Educational Leadership*. Be sure to check out the Professional Development section of the website, especially the Tutorials (scroll down to the bottom of that page for a listing). <http://www.ascd.org>

The Journal of Cases in Educational Leadership (JCEL) publishes in electronic format peer-reviewed case studies appropriate for use in programs that prepare education leaders. While not all the cases apply to Jewish educational settings, some do offer interesting windows for discussions among Jewish educators. <http://www.ucea.org/cases/>

The Staff Development and Adult Learning Site is collection of articles and resources for those interested in leading their schools toward effective integration of technology in the learning process. <http://staffdevelopment.org>

The Peter F. Drucker Foundation for Nonprofit Management. This site is a treasure trove of management ideas, change information, and practical advice. While not your traditional education site, it contains useful resources for leaders who want to innovate and lead organizations toward excellence. <http://www.pfdf.org/>

-Reviewed by Nachama Skolnik Moskowitz, Director of Curriculum Resources and Maury Greenberg, Director, Technology Resources & Professional Development