Leadership: Effective Critical Skills

We've all known great political and historical leaders who thrive in difficult situations and may even become energized in such environments. However, leadership isn't limited to just a few occupations. In fact, leaders are everywhere, and those who lead schools are among the leaders whose actions have a lasting and significant impact.

In Leadership: Effective Critical Skills, we will examine six critical skills that are important for educational leaders:

- Communicating effectively

- Problem solving and decision making

- Resolving conflict

- Building high impact teams

- Measuring and analyzing impact

- Eliminating obstacles to success

Additionally, this six-module course offers practical advice on emphasizing the importance of consistency in achieving change within the educational environment and avoiding several common obstacles to leadership success.

Course Objectives

In this course, you will:

- Analyze the role of effective communication as a leadership skill.

- Describe a framework for collaborative negotiation.

- Establish the importance of managing high-impact teams.

- Learn to avoid the most common leadership pitfalls.

Course Syllabus

Module 1	**Communicating Effectively**
	• Reading: Introduction
	• Reading: Parents are from Mars, Kids are from....?
	• Reading: Effective Communication
	• Video: Adult Conflict Resolution
	• Application: I-Message
	• Module Journal
Module 2	**Problem Solving and Decision Making**
	• Reading: Introduction
	• Reading: What is a Problem?
	• Reading: Treating Problems Creatively
	• Application: Managing the Message
Module 3	**Resolving a Conflict**
	• Reading: Introduction
	• Reading: What is Conflict?
	• Reading: Developing a Capacity for Conflict Management
	• Reading: Coping with Anger
	• Application: Self-Evaluation
	• Module Journal
Module 4	**Building High-Impact Teams**
	• Reading: Introduction
	• Reading: Characteristics of Effective Teams
	• Reading: A National Imperative
	• Video: Restructuring America's Schools
	• Application: Evaluating Group Dynamics

Module 5	**Measuring and Analyzing Impact**
	• Reading: Introduction
	• Reading: You Manage What You Measure
	• Reading: Choosing the Right Things To Measure
	• Reading: Developing Powerful Measures
	• Reading: Linking Strategic Goals to Classroom Practice
	• Application: Evaluating Key Measures
Module 6	**Eliminating Obstacles to Success**
	• Reading: Introduction
	• Reading: Common Pitfalls
	• Application: Avoiding Common Pitfalls