The Spirit of Leadership: Excellence is a Never Ending Process

We must become the change we want to see

As discussed by Mahatma Gandhi

Patricia A. Prelock, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
2013 ASHA President
Dean, College of Nursing & Health Sciences
Professor, Communication Sciences & Disorders

DISCLOSURE

• Patricia A. Prelock

• I don’t have any financial relationships to disclose relevant to today’s presentation topic.

• I do have a nonfinancial relationship to disclose as I am a member of the ASHA Board of Directors. I receive no compensation for my volunteer service in my role as ASHA President.

What was I thinking?
For whatever reason . . . leadership found me

- Dealt with the loss of a younger sister (21 months) when I was 4 1/2
- Experienced the birth of a sibling with Down syndrome at 8 and was part of Special Olympics at 12
- Led my junior class and student council (as a VP) at 16 and 17 when only ‘males’ could be President at my high school
- Had opportunities to lead my UG campus in a variety of activities all four years without losing focus on becoming an SLP
- Moved 7 times as an adult without a job in each move & had to create positions for myself

My Key Leadership Trajectory with ASHA

President-elect, President, Past
VP for Standards & Ethics in SLP 2008-2010
Ad hoc Committee on Service delivery in schools 2007
Ad hoc Committee on MR/DD 2003-2004
Clinical Specialty Board 1999-2001
Special Interest Subcommittee, Newsletter Editor, Associate Coordinator, Coordinator 1991-2004
National Committee on LLD 1987-1990

My professional leadership... started at the state & local level

State & Local Level 1978-1998
- President Summit County SLP Association
- Legislative Council Ohio Speech & Hearing Association
- President Southwestern Pennsylvania SLH Association
- Program Committee Capital Area SLH Association
- Program Committee VSHA
- OSHA Liaison Southwestern Ohio SLH Association
My mentors... provided the spirit and inspiration for leadership

My mom & brother

My research professor & clinical supervisors

Children & families with disabilities

So, for me, excellence in LEADERSHIP

“... is not an accomplishment, it is a spirit, a never-ending process”

Lawrence M. Miller

Purposeful

Satisfying

How do I develop Good Leadership?

Effective

Ethical
Effective Leaders Build Trust=>a value important to me

- Get to know others’ thought patterns, work habits, interests & pet peeves
- Acquire information needed to solve problems & address challenges efficiently & effectively
- Understand the values & beliefs that spark peoples’ emotions & passions
- Act on my own values and beliefs!

MANAGERS ARE PEOPLE WHO DO THINGS RIGHT, WHILE LEADERS ARE PEOPLE WHO DO THE RIGHT THING . . . Warren Bennis

WAYS to BUILD TRUST

Take Responsibility

- Own the issue
- Decide on needed change

WAYS to BUILD TRUST

Get Feedback

- Strengths
- Challenges
WAYS to BUILD TRUST

Focus on others’ needs
Not just my own

WAYS to BUILD TRUST

Get it done!
When I say I am going to do something, I need to do it

WAYS to BUILD TRUST

Be consistent!
Operate from my values & principles
People will know what to expect
Effective Leaders Listen... they

- Communicate WITH others not TO them
- Listen without the intent of responding
- Know when not to say something
- People know you are listening when you:
  - Look at them
  - Use open body language
  - Paraphrase what they are saying to ensure understanding
  - Stop talking

*Give every man thine ear but few thy voice*
*William Shakespeare*

I use a Collaborative Leadership Style

Shared leadership in an academic context

I use a Collaborative Leadership Style

Shared leadership in a volunteer context
And I try to remember key leadership values in tough times . . .

- Keep my eye on the big px
- Don't get caught up in the problem
- Keep moving toward the vision
- Don't get caught in the war or friendly fire
- Don't be dragged into the fray
- Act rationally & objectively
- Be the 1st to sacrifice
- Enjoy the well deserved rewards
- Take responsibility for giving something up

And I try to remember key leadership values in tough times . . .

- Remain calm
- Think issues through
- Calm leaders make the best decisions
- Motivate
- Show how the end result will be good
- Support optimism
- Create small wins
- Find smaller, achievable goals
- Celebrate all the ‘wins’

It’s all about Emotional Intelligence

- Emotional maturity affects a group’s mood, which affects productivity
- Our physical reactions are closely tied to our emotions
Emotional intelligence requires

- Knowing yourself
  - Understanding unique strengths & weaknesses
  - Understanding your emotions requires you to understand yourself
- Managing your emotions
  - Showing restraint & resilience
  - Maintaining a positive attitude
- Increasing your social awareness
  - Awareness of others’ emotions
- Achieving relationship success

Above all I try to . . .

• keep a sense of humor

You gain strength, courage & confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You must do the thing you think you cannot do

Eleanor Roosevelt

Struggle to Keep the Work-Life Balance
My challenge is . . .

One can never consent to creep when one feels an impulse to soar! . . .

Helen Keller