

Developing Student Leadership

1. Create the right climate and continually display and model this mindset for the students.
 - a. Leaders come from everywhere and anywhere.
 - b. Leaders are found at every level of the organization.
 - c. Leaders are everyday heroes of our world.
 - d. Students are leaders.
 - e. Teach, encourage and guide students to “Get Stuff Done.” (GSD)
2. Explicitly teach leadership and develop leadership skills in the classroom. Motivate and encourage student leadership by providing them with inspirational examples of leaders.
3. Highlight and celebrate examples of leadership in their own midst to help them realize that leaders can be students, are found everywhere, at every level, and are everyday heroes in their world.
4. Involve and listen to students. Recognize and value student voice.
5. Foster an environment of collaboration. Model, demonstrate and teach students that good leaders strengthen and build up others.
6. Give students responsibility and put them in charge. Allow them to rise to the occasion; students are often much more capable than adults give them credit for when they are provided with the right opportunities and responsibilities.
7. Not only allow, but encourage students to experiment and take risks. Allow them to fail in small ways that will help them grow.
8. Use community and school partnerships to provide students with mentorship opportunities to learn and grow. Students can be both mentors and mentees. (e.g. older students can pair up with a younger student, or students can pair up with a leader in the community through school-community connections)
9. Provide in and out of school extra-curricular activities. Collaborate with the community to provide additional opportunities. Connect students with activities and causes in their community that are meaningful to them. Teach students to listen carefully first, rather than feel like they need to be superheroes who swoop in and create the change that they feel is needed.
10. Allow students to dream & search for opportunities that are meaningful to them. Validate their ideas, and say “Yes!” to their ideas. Provide encouragement and guidance. Become the “guide at the side”, rather than the “sage on the stage” who has all the answers.

<https://mystudentvoices.com/5-tips-for-empowering-student-leaders-11f9fce102d4>

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