

Study Guide Chapter 3 ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Examining My Leadership Perspective

1. Which educational “thought leader” has had the greatest impact on your leadership life? In what ways has that person’s thinking significantly influenced your leadership beliefs and actions? If possible, how might you let that person know how you feel?
2. How are you staying current with “new edge” information that provides the *technical* resources of leadership? What leadership books are you currently reading? How are you transferring knowledge from those resources to your leadership actions?
3. In a dozen or so words, how would you describe your primary *pursuit* as a PLC school leader? What, above all else, is your number-one responsibility and priority right now?
4. Building and sustaining relationships is critical to a leader’s effectiveness and success. What do you think are your strengths and limitations in the relationships you have with those leaders to your north? With your peers in the east and west spheres? With those you lead to your south? In what ways has the information in this chapter helped you to analyze those relationships? How has the information helped you to build the relational capacity of those individuals and teams within your sphere of influence? What information could you use in an effort to improve a relationship with a difficult colleague? Download *The N-S-E-W PLC Sphere of Influence Chart* to focus a team discussion about collegial relationships.
5. Identify the best team experience you have had as a PLC school leader. What aspects of team member communication made that experience positive and worthwhile?

Extending My Leadership Perspective

1. Ask all your faculty teams to complete the *Building Communities of Practice* worksheet. How will you use the results to identify areas in need of improvement for building the knowledge capacity of the team? What resources will you draw upon to foster the team's growth?
2. Ask all your faculty teams to complete the *Knowing Your Team History* worksheet. What do the results reveal about the progress of your PLC commitment to becoming a sharing community? For the weakest-performing PLC teams, which aspects of knowing your team history are in greatest need of improvement? What resources will you draw upon to make the necessary improvements?
3. School leaders have a major responsibility to eliminate inequity. What are the inequities that exist in your area of school leadership? To what extent do the administration, faculty, and staff acknowledge these inequities? Are the entire administration, faculty, and staff committed to addressing the issues surrounding these inequities? What plan do you have for solving problems caused by these inequities?
4. PLC leaders pursue an expanded leadership base. What are your plans for fostering an environment that supports a more distributed leadership?
5. What attributes must leaders possess (or acquire) to ensure that either "leadership by Barney the Dinosaur" or "leadership by Attila the Hun" does not characterize their performance? In your experience, have you encountered such leaders? If so, how did you deal with them at the time? As a result of studying this chapter, how would you deal with them now?