



Leadership Support System

Northwest Education Services

Future Leaders Academy

For aspiring educators seeking targeted and purposeful leadership development

Northwest Education Services (North Ed) is the sponsor of a region-wide professional learning academy for educators/teacher leaders aspiring to become school leaders. Developed in 2023, the Future Leaders Academy focuses on essential and pragmatic topics of school leadership with program facilitators

and session leaders drawn from practicing administrators from northwest Michigan and across the state. The academy is designed to address the shrinking pool of quality candidates for school and district leader assignments across northwest Michigan.

Outcomes

- Identify teacher leaders who have demonstrated potential for school and/or district leader positions.
- Develop and enhance leader knowledge and skill by providing professional learning opportunities and experiences.
- Put theory into practice with authentic on-the-job experiences.
- Build a region-wide network of qualified administrator candidates.
- Explore the role of a building leader.

Format

- Ten-month program from September to June.
- Required attendance at monthly cohort meetings held from 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- Mentor and job-shadow experiences alongside practicing school administrators and leaders.
- 110 hours of field work and/or internships.
- Guided support on culminating project portfolio.
- Mock interview for reflection and guidance toward next professional steps.

Opportunities

- Through mentorship, job shadowing and professional development, select candidates will be invited to participate in this leader pipeline designed to deliver a variety of high-quality opportunities to support growth in educational leadership.
- Pursue a graduate degree and administrator certification by obtaining graduate credits from Grand Valley State University.
 - Gain SCECHs to meet certification requirements.
 - Obtain a leader microcredential from North Ed.
 - Build valuable relationships that will provide ongoing support from cohort and program mentors.

Contact Us

Rick Vandermolen
231.642.1507 | rvandermolen@NorthwestEd.org

Sessions

Leadership

Orientation & Leader Profile

Sept. 24, 2024

Leadership Continued

Oct. 22, 2024

Change Management

School Improvement

Nov. 26, 2024

Data-Based Decision-Making

Jan. 21, 2025

Theory into Practice

Resource Mgmt.: Human & Time

Feb. 25, 2025

Resource Mgmt.: Financial

March 18, 2025

Trip Hazards

April 22, 2025

Putting it All Together:

Administrator Panel Mock Interviews

May 20, 2025

Closing Ceremony Celebration

June 17, 2025

LEARN MORE:
NorthwestEd.org/PD

Expectations of Participants

- Attend ALL sessions and mentor meetings.
- Complete 110 hours of fieldwork/internships with assigned administrator.
- Complete five days of job-shadowing experience through the 10-month program.
- Complete all program assignments including project portfolio tied to NELP and/or PSEL standards*.
- Pay tuition/course fees if in pursuit of graduate degree credits (optional path).
- Seek and secure a mentor to help guide experiences through the 10-month program.

Credit Options

As an added benefit to participants, both college credit and State Continuing Education Clock Hours (SCECHs) are offered.

State Continuing Education Clock Hours (SCECHs)

MI SCECHs will be offered, at no additional charge, with college credit equivalent for this course. SCECHs cannot be obtained in conjunction with college credit opportunities.

College Credit**

All registration paperwork will be handled directly by Grand Valley State University. Classes are 600-level courses. It is the student's responsibility to speak directly with an advisor.

Program Components

The Future Leaders Academy delivers four professional development components which align with research and educational practice and are essential to shaping effective school leaders:

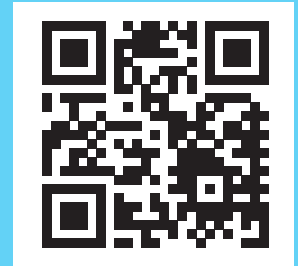
- Rigorous leader standards of practice and performance that guide principal preparation, hiring, evaluation and support.
- High-quality pre-service preparation for high-potential candidates, typically through a combination of in-district programs and partnerships with university preparation programs.
- Data-informed hiring and placement, based on candidates' demonstrated skills, to selectively hire and match principal candidates to schools.
- Well-aligned on-the-job support and evaluation, serving to help principals, especially novices, hone their skills and bolster instructional leadership.

How to Apply

Prospective candidates must be sponsored*** by their supervisor/school administrator.

Scan the QR code or go to: www.NorthwestEd.org/PD to complete the application and submit the following:

- Signed participation letter from local administrator.
- Letter of interest stating why you desire to enroll in the academy.
- Current resume.



Apply Today!

NorthwestEd.org/PD

* National Educational Leadership Preparation/Professional Standards for Educational Leaders.

**Credit hours and tuition fees will be for Fall and Winter semesters. Registration paperwork and fees will be available and processed after. Course fees are payable directly to GVSU and can be made with credit card or check. Students are billed directly. Grades will be given at the closing of each university semester.

***The local district will be responsible for academy registration fees. The participant will be responsible for any additional costs associated with college credits or tuition fees.

North Ed Leadership Support System

Northwest Education Services (North Ed) offers targeted professional development and training through its Leadership Support System:

Future Leaders Academy (FLA)

For Aspiring Principals, Future Leaders

New Principal Network (NPN)

For New & Young Principals or Building Leaders

School Leadership Network (SLN)

For All Secondary & Elementary Principals

Impact Leader Partnership (ILP)

For Superintendents