



A. Berg, TPC Director
ann.berg@trinity.edu
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Trinity Principals' Center Newsletter

School Leadership

Dr. Richard Elmore is professor of Educational Leadership at Harvard University Graduate School of Education.



Bring your school leadership team to Trinity's Chapman Auditorium for Dr. Richard Elmore's **Wednesday, October 22nd** morning lecture from **9:30 to 11:30 a.m.**:

Leadership to Improve Teaching and Learning. Come back or send a new team to the afternoon interactive work session at the Fiesta Room which will start promptly at **1:30 p.m.** RSVP to Blanca Kirkman at 210.999.7178 or Ann Berg at ann.berg@trinity.edu.

Area principals who attended Elmore's 2008 summer session at the Harvard Principals' Center: *Redesigning High Schools for Improved Instruction* are pleased to have the chance to reflect and reconnect. Dr. Elmore has written many publications including "Bridging the Gap Between Standards and Achievement" (2002) and "Building a New Structure for School Leadership" (2000). His research focuses on the effects of federal, state and local education policy on schools and classrooms. He explores how changes in teaching and learning affect school organization. Elmore is director of the Consortium for Policy Research in Education (CPRE), a group of universities engaged in research on state and local education policy, funded by the U.S. Department of Education. We are pleased to host Dr. Elmore as he discusses school leadership.

Leading with the Heart

The Whole Child, The Whole Principal: Leading with the Heart This is the motto of the Trinity Principals' Center whose purpose is to provide a structure for inter-district support and professional development for area principals, assistant principals and other school leaders. For more information, call (210) 999-7178.

Assistant Principals' Cohort

The Trinity Principals' Center is sponsoring an inter-district cohort for assistant principals again this year. Sessions are built on wants and needs of the participants. Forty new AP's and AP's new to a school are enrolled. AP's need leadership experiences that ask them to rise above day-to-day activities to craft a compelling vision for what is needed in 21st century schooling. **Peggy Caravantes** and **Ann Berg** facilitate. Meeting dates are: 10-15, 11-12, 12-10, 1-14, 2-11, 4-16 and 6-10.

October Calendar

- 13** NSLN Cohort #1 5:00-8:00 p.m.
Alamo Café, 14250 Highway 281 N
- 14** NSLN Cohort #2 5:00-8:00 p.m.
Water Street Oyster, 7500 Broadway
- 15** Assistant Principals' Cohort 8:30-3:00
Trinity Fiesta Room
- 16** NSLN Cohort #3 5:00-8:00 p.m.
Johnny Carino's, 3147 SE Military
- 17-19** Courage to Lead Friday, 5:00 p.m.
Haven River Inn, Comfort, TX
- 22** TPC Lecture Series, **Dr. R. Elmore**
9:30-11:30 a.m. & 1:30-3:00 p.m.
- 31** Communication Workshop, 9-3 p.m.,
Storch #112, **Dr. Paul Kelleher**

Courage to Lead Cohort

TPC will sponsor a new *Courage to Lead Cohort* again this year. It is a five-part retreat program for the personal and professional renewal of principals and others in leadership positions in schools. Participants gather in large-group, small-group and solitary settings, focusing neither on technique nor on school reform, but upon renewing the inner life of leaders in education. Led by **Carol Mendenhall** and **Terri Neuman**, the retreats are structured around the themes of the seasons and the complexity of leading schools today. Orientation was held at Trinity on Oct. 7 for the new cohort that will hold its first retreat October 17-19 in Comfort, Texas.

Third N.S.L.N. Cohort Begins

The *National School Leadership Network (NSLN)* is a national organization that believes that principals need structured opportunities to think together about the challenges of their practice. At monthly evening meetings, dialogues occur that enable cohort members to increase their capacity for learning and problem solving with support from their colleagues. In Jan. 2007, the TPC sponsored one NSLN cohort, added a second one last September, and started a third cohort September 11. The three cohorts meet once a month on different days of the week in different parts of the city. There is a waiting list of principals who will be notified if we are able to form a fourth cohort next year.

Keep Informed about TPC

IMPORTANT! News about the Trinity Principals' Center, recent newsletters and a Calendar of Events can be accessed at the following internet link: http://www/trinity.edu/departments/Education/Special_Programs/principals_center.htm

News about a new coaching cohort will be emailed to you when dates are set. A Powerful Strategies session is being planned for second semester. **Susan Gonzales** at ESC-20 is coordinating the planning.

A workshop on *Communication* for those who took the three-day session in June will be given October 31 by **Dr. Paul Kelleher** to follow up on communication skills learned in the Spring. There is no further cost. Check the Trinity calendar for other Communication sessions offered both semesters.

Dropout Prevention Sharing Session Held at Jefferson H.S.

Edison High School Principal **Charles Munoz** hosted our first TPC sharing session of the year with a large group of school leaders concerned with keeping students in school in order to prepare them for the 21st century work force. SAISD Superintendent **Robert Duron** shared hands-on efforts being implemented in SAISD.

Dr. Maria Ferrier, Executive Director of TAMUK and Co-chair of the National Dropout Prevention Conference to be held in San Antonio October 24-28, 2009, urged schools to participate and share their best practices. **Dr. Richard Butler**, Trinity Professor of Economics, talked about the *Bigger Dropout Picture* and the model Alamo Area Academies programs. **Dean Chris Ellerson**, from the Trinity Admissions and Financial Aid Office shared information about San Antonio First Generation Access Scholarships.

Principals **Lorna Klokkenga**, (Highlands High School), **Linda Marsh** (Brackenridge High School), and **Sam Hogue** (Jefferson High School) shared reflections from the summer 2008 Summer Harvard Principals Center Experience at the session called: *Redesigning High Schools*, detailing concepts presented by **Dr. Richard Elmore** who will be with us at Trinity on October 22. They urged everyone at the session to encourage the principals in their districts to attend.

We want to express our sincere appreciation to all who made our first sharing session of the year such a great learning experience for us all.

The next sharing session will be hosted by SAISD Principal **Thomasine Chambers** at Herff Elementary School, 996 South Hackberry from 8:00-10:30 a.m. Tuesday, November 6, with a TPC Steering Committee meeting immediately following. Another Harvard Summer Session panel on *Visioning* will share their reflections. Save the date!

Thanks, TPC Steering Group

Thanks to those who serve on the 2008-2009 TPC steering committee: **Karen Bessette**, Randolph Field ISD, **Diana Casas**, Harlandale ISD, **Thomasine Chambers**, San Antonio ISD, **Terri Chidgey**, North East ISD, **Deonna Dean**, Northside ISD, Cindy **Fairall**, North East ISD, **Lori Gallegos**, Northside ISD, **Jeff Goldhorn**, ESC-20, **Allana Hemenway**, Randolph Field ISD, **Cordell Jones**, AHISD, **Denise Kern**, Comal ISD, **Janet Mannsman**, SAISD, **Norma Martinez**, Southside ISD, **Linda Nance**, San Antonio ISD, **Gretchen Ricker**, Retired, **Melinda Salinas**, Judson ISD, **Kristina Vidaurri**, Judson ISD, **Debbie Williams**, Boerne ISD and **Janice Williams**, East Central.