

As we look ahead into the next century, leaders will be those who empower others.

Bill Gates

EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP

- Be open-minded: Include your members' ideas, thoughts, and opinions in planning projects whenever possible.
- Be accessible: A good leader is never too busy to spend quality time with someone. The time you set aside to listen to a problem or cheer someone on -- or up -- is always a good investment.
- Match your members' duties to their abilities and interests: Students can do a good job only if their abilities and circumstances enable them to.
- Stress TEAMWORK: Make it clear that while each student has value, he/she is of greater value to the team.
- Think of conflict as a useful tool: When you encourage people to think for themselves, you're bound to have some clashes.
- Delegate when necessary: Ask yourself these questions everyday: Do all of these tasks need my personal attention? Can anyone handle some of them? If not, can I train someone? It's usually worth the effort
- Criticize sparingly, praise lavishly: Recognize what people do right and they'll do more of it. Criticize people unnecessarily, and they'll lose their confidence, initiative and drive.
- Don't be a know-it-all: Admit when you don't know something and ask for help.
- Don't meddle: Once you've handed out an assignment, back off. People won't improve if you're constantly looking over their shoulder.
- Share the credit, never the blame: If something goes wrong, you're responsible -- even if one of your colleagues is at fault. On the other hand, never accept sole credit for the success of your organization -- even if you deserve it.
- Be realistic about your expectations of others and yourself: Aim for excellence, but don't expect perfection.
- Keep your perspective: If you act as though every small crisis is a matter of life or death, people will tune you out when a truly important matter comes along.
- Maintain your sense of humor: Leaders who can see the ridiculous in almost any situation -- and in themselves -- usually have cheerful, productive people working for them.
- Stick to the Golden Rule: Ask yourself, "what is the fair and kind thing To do about this? How would I want to be treated in this situation?"

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