Leadership: Student learning objective 5

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SED 697

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LEADERSHIP by influencing policy and practice in educational communities through advocacy and example.

Assignment

The assignment was to write a grant proposal for a cause or issue that needs funding for improvement, change, and a solution. The focus of the grant had us look at the issues facing technology education and what can be done to improve our students’ education. The assignment was very thorough in writing a grant. After I chose an issue, I mapped out a plan for at least two years. Two individuals would lead the entire project. The two years had time allocated for professional development, conference attendance, and implementation of plans. The budget was broken down into the proper software and equipment needed to run the project and majority of the budget was allocated for the stipends for the individuals (teachers) involved.

Connection between Assignment and SLO

The grant was a great exercise for us to demonstrate our ability to influence change in our schools. It empowered us to look into an issue and try to find a solution that is not limited within the scopes of our own resources. Being able to write a grant proves the desire for change. With the ever-increasing budget issue, educators need to be self-advocating for change. We cannot wait for the district and state government to act on our behalf. Writing grants allow for change to occur for our school.

Writing and receiving a grant can be examples for other teachers and other schools in our district that funding can be found anywhere. Being role models to other colleagues can help a wider amount of students be impacted with the change needed to improve their education.
What you learned and how it will influence your teaching

The grant writing assignment was a struggle for me because I had not written a grant before. Having this opportunity to write a grant demonstrates the work and effort needed to write an effective grant. Grants are important because it will allow for individuals in the schools to make a difference in changing the policies so that students can have an effective learning environment. Writing grants is a powerful tool for being an advocate in the schools. There are funds out there that are not being tapped. With resources such as this, changes can be done. Improvements desired in the school setting in order to help students effectively learn makes the job of writing a grant a worthwhile experience. This assignment demonstrated the possibilities are endless. Grants do not need to be this extensive, but they can help support the labs that can be effective in teaching science.