A PERSONAL LEADERSHIP STATEMENT

MARIA CAMILA GARCES CALDERIN

UNIVERSIDAD DE CÓRDOBA

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING PROGRAMME

DIPLOMA COURSE

Lifelong Professional Development: Empowering Foreign Language Teachers

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MARIA CAMILA GARCES CALDERIN

Statement submitted in fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of English Teaching Program

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Leadership profile

As future teacher leaders, I should support students' abilities and give almost all of us to motivate them to work hard in order to achieve their proposed individual and group goals. Likewise, I want to be better while helping others to be better as well, assuming the challenges with the purpose of making a change. As teacher leaders, I see ourselves as role models for students to follow, leaders who are creative and empathic. I expect to be capable of recognizing others' skills, their goals, and personal development while seeking the members' welfare that can establish a good team relationship.

A true leader helps people go where they could never go alone.

—Maria Garcés. Personal leadership statement.

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Abstract

Although Leadership has been a term used by several people, it is still not defined with certainty, many people have given their opinion and points of view about what leadership is, based on their beliefs and studies, but there is still no widely accepted definition. In this work, I show a little about what leadership is, the points of view of some experts, my assumptions about what this means, and how it can help us as future teachers in the educational field in the search to be leaders in the classroom. as well as empowerment, and implications for the future. With this, I seek to find a way to implement this concept in our daily lives as teachers to achieve successful educational leadership and make the educational experience a little more pleasant.

Keywords: Leadership, beliefs, educational field, empowerment.

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Introduction

Leadership has a lot of definitions, for some experts leadership is synonym with motivation (Adair, 2010) and for others, it is a synonym with inspiration (Friedrich, 1961). "It is widely understood as the process of social influence through which a group member enlists and mobilizes the aid of others in the attainment of a collective goal" (Bass & Riggio, 2006). Hence, a leader is a person who is capable of guiding a group of people and has the ability to motivate them to achieve their goals through their speech or empathy. Furthermore, "The skills required to conquer adversity and emerge stronger and more committed than ever are the same ones that make for extraordinary leaders" (Bennis & Thomas, 2020). In other words, one of the most reliable indicators and predictors of true leadership is an individual's

ability to find meaning in negative events and to learn from them even the most trying circumstances. The leader's task is to set a target and motivate the majority of people to want to accomplish it.

To conclude, a leader has to be a person who naturally inspires confidence, loyalty, and hard work to motivate others (Kouzes & Posner, 2011). ireseaders are important in society because they usually have the ability to guide, motivate the group to achieve the objectives or goals set, and thanks to these leaders we can have a direction and inspiration in our lives, and thus as a group, we can succeed in our mission.

Assumptions

Assumptions are a set of beliefs or concepts that someone holds to be true despite the lack of substantial evidence and hence, have not been proven via investigation. Every person has the power to form their own conclusions and views, as well as construct their own assumptions about the leadership process, the environment, the backdrop, and other factors that influence how the leaders carry out their actions and judgments (Ferdig, 2007). In terms of leadership, I assume that it is member-driven and based on an understanding of the member's shortcomings.

Another important element to emphasize is the members' awareness of their own inadequacies since I am able to recognize the various areas where I need to improve. Furthermore, I would recognize the necessity and assistance that the other requires in order to provide support for me to improve every day. Furthermore, knowing the members'

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shortcomings encourage me to concentrate on their strengths while assigning or distributing tasks, making attaining the goal easier and faster.

I have asked myself: Am I managing real teamwork? Am I behaving like a true leader? Are we considering every member's opinion? Are we really aware of our partners' weaknesses? Am I encouraging my partners to be better?

Leadership empowerment and implications for the future

"Empowerment refers to power-sharing, the delegation of power or authority to subordinate in the organization" (Daft, 2014). Additionally, empowerment is a crucial attribute that fosters leadership and motivation of others. It is essential to demonstrate that being a leader helps in motivation in an organization, a company, or even a school, because they are linked to the ability to take risks and bring creative ideas, since, it is not only about giving instructions but also about vision, dedication and work capacity.

It is vital for me to grasp what empowerment is as a future educational leader, not only to understand what it means but also to use it in my work, because, as previously stated. The skills, creativity, and intelligence of my students can be harnessed, I could pass it on to our students, making them feel confident and supporting their effectiveness both in and out of the classroom as they participate.

There are some challenges those educational leaders should face. One of them is technology. In this respect, (Luqman, 2012) argued that "technology has been considered one

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of the vital change agents in today's education sector" (p. 4). Technology is always evolving, keeping the teaching and learning processes continuous is a major challenge, especially for institutions that are not used to keeping up with technological advances. Therefore, educational leadership that includes technology can increase the productivity and quality of education (Garland & Tadeja, 2013). In addition to improving student achievement, having good educational leadership is a critical key to achieving certain teaching objectives (Bush, 2007). It is a process that requires true leaders with a clear vision, the ability to innovate, and the power to manage change and improve education.

Conclussion

The success of leadership depends on team members. That is why we must strive to achieve the main objective while supporting and respecting each other's perspectives and ideas. In addition, organization, positivity, transparency, and effort play an important role (Pina et al., 2009).

In terms of empowerment, I believe that, in foreign language teaching, schools should develop an action plan that suits the needs of all learners and addresses the challenges of second language learning, it is critical that educational institutions incorporate technological tools and a diverse range of materials into the teaching process while providing students with a comfortable learning environment (Piccoli et al., 2001). On the other hand, as teachers, we must strive to help students develop all four skills equally, bring out the best in students and

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encourage them to find a cause for learning the language by awakening their interest. Finally,

we must be aware that difficult challenges may arise in the future and be prepared to face

them.

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