

Effective Leadership

Well known authors in the area of educational leadership, L. Bolman and T. Deal explore the many dimensions of effective leadership in a text, now in its fifth edition, entitled *Reframing Organizations: Artistry, Choice, and Leadership* (2013). They make reference to various styles including social dynamics – diversity; human resources – professional development; community – impact of all sectors; political – interior and exterior governing structures; institutional – culture; and leadership directed to various constituencies, i.e. students, parents, etc. They write that strong understanding of these types of leadership result in an individual's ability to bring about constructive change in a school, deeper student learning, and broad teaching effectiveness.

In the Catholic schools of the Archdiocese of Hartford the position description for Head of School requires the ability to demonstrate faith leadership, academic, financial, governance, and operational vitality leadership. What makes these administrators so effective is that linking all of these strains of leadership is the one's ability to give great attention to the relational aspect of leadership. The gospel message of respect and care for each other drives each of our administrators to put this truth at the forefront of his/her work. Participation in the local *Leadership Academy* prepares each candidate for leadership in our Catholic schools, and in particular informs them of local policies and procedures in our network of Archdiocesan schools.

During this season of giving thanks, we are grateful for the dedication, talent, and gift of our Catholic school leaders.

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