Educational Leadership Philosophy

I believe an excellent administrator has to be passionate about education, the future of our children and society, and above all else, has to be a person of integrity.

In order to share the passion, one has to be accessible and personally participate in the learning process. If the perception is that you're in the office constantly, the teachers and more importantly the students will figure out your leadership style rather quickly. A leader needs management skills, but sees beyond the physical plant and mandated requirements to achieve the big picture in education – developing a life-long love of education in his/her students, parents and teachers.

The future of the world has always rested on the shoulders of our children, and I have tremendous faith in the young people of today. It is the educators of today who are ultimately reshaping the society of the future by providing our children with the academic, social and emotional tools to become citizens of the global world. Sadly, if school leaders are indifferent to the problems of the world today, how can anyone expect the younger generations that follow to make a positive change? A leader leads by example.

Integrity is the most important characteristic of any great leader. Being well educated, possessing a scholarly vocabulary, or enjoying the sensation of overall popularity are all aspects of leadership that most people aspire to (or are envious of). When I think about those who taught me about leadership, I see the same qualities in each and everyone of them: they were humble but not "push over’s"; always handled things in a fair and decisive manner; were honest, especially about making a mistake and taking responsibility for it; appreciative of the people and resources around them; surrounded themselves with intelligent and dedicated staff members; were always professional both in an outside of work; were 100% giving of themselves on many levels; showed kindness to parents and children consistently; and were willing to make tough decisions that made some people unhappy but did so because it was the best thing for the school district and the community.