

Curriculum

Aug 1-2 Understanding Leadership Preferences & Managing Differences

Focus on personal leadership and introducing concepts of conflict resolution and negotiation. In this session participants will have an opportunity to explore what it means to lead and govern in the public sector, discover and affirm their individual preferences and talents through the use of the Meyers Briggs Type Inventory (MBTI), and be introduced to ways to manage themselves and their relationships more effectively through communication and conflict resolution tools.

Sept 5-6 The Leadership Challenge: Five Practices of Exemplary Leaders

Participants will delve into The Leadership Challenge framework, based on the internationally-acclaimed book and five key principles created by James M. Kouzes and Barry Z. Posner. They will gain insights into their own leadership practices and behaviors based on the leadership practices inventory. They will become clear about the values that guide their decision making, create and share a vision for their community/region, and continue to sharpen their listening and communication skills through use of simulation and improvisation.

Oct 3-4 Effectively Leading Across Boundaries

Participants will explore what collaborative leadership truly is: what it looks like and feels like, and the guiding principles that help true collaborations succeed for the long term. They will explore the behaviors and characteristics that lead to collaborative problem-solving, and that help a leader share a vision that extends beyond their own governing boundaries. Participants will learn the personal leadership skills needed to create a culture of collaboration, not only within their governing boards but also with other boards and groups in their region.

Nov 7-8 Getting Your Message Across

Participants will learn the principles of communicating with and through the media and building communications strategies that align with their personal values and community vision. Participants will have hands-on practices in working with the press and social media to help shape a message and share information with constituents. Participants will share and receive feedback on their vision for their school, town or county.

Between Sessions Virtual Learning Communities: Between face-to-face sessions, additional electronic coaching resources will be provided to reinforce and evaluate the participants' practical application of changing behaviors and leadership practices. Through these small group virtual learning communities, participants will share their attempts at practicing what they have learned and will engage in peer consultations on each other's identified leadership challenges.