

Educational leadership seminar

Giambattista Bufalino, University of Catania

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

*School leadership for
innovation:
challenges and opportunities*

This seminar will be delivered in english



Maria Tomarchio
University of Catania

Greetings to Seminar Participants

Giambattista Bufalino
University of Lincoln, UK

*The Sound of Leadership:
Educational Leadership in music*

Christopher Tienken
Seton Hall University, USA

Overview of the US education system

James Corino
Seton Hall University, USA

*Roles and responsibilities
of school principal in the US*

Daniel Gutmore
Seton Hall University, USA

Distributed Leadership in Education

15 TH JANUARY, 2018
15.00-19.00

Seminar. FIRD 2017
Scientific Coordinator: Gabriella D'Aprile

Dipartimento Scienze
della formazione
Palazzo Verginelle



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Definition

- Your definition

Definition

Leadership is one of those concepts that are very hard to define¹¹. For example, Bennis estimated at least 650 definitions of leadership in literature, while Stodgill affirmed that

«there are almost as many different definitions of leadership as there are persons who have attempted to define the concept». Despite this variety of meanings, Kruse has defined leadership as «a process of social influence, which maximizes the efforts of others, towards the achievement of a goal»

Definition

In an educational context, therefore, school leadership can refer to «the work of mobilizing and influencing others to articulate and achieve the school's shared intentions and goals». In this respect, I work with Hoerr's definition that «leadership is about relationships» and therefore focusing on what can be done to unearth the potential of all educators in order to improve schools and student success.

Definition

- 1) Leadership as influence
- 2) Leadership and values. Leaders are expected to ground their actions in clear personal and professional values. Leadership begins with the 'character' of leaders, expressed in terms of personal values, self-awareness and emotional and moral capability
- 3) Leadership and vision

Educational leadership

Leithwood, Jantzi and Steinbach state that over the last century a great deal has been learnt about leadership. In line with that, there has been an explosion of knowledge creation in the field of educational leadership and management (EDLM) across the globe.

And in Italy?

Many Italian studies of school leadership are very limited in the international educational leadership field, while there is not an established field of study at a national level. At the same time, given the current Italian educational reform process, school leaders are experiencing an increased workload: they are subject to demands, not only from the education authorities, but also from other quarters, such as parents and the whole community.

Dirigenti scuola 1986-



Cesare Scurati



Why should we study Ed leadership?

Many broad-based studies conducted in recent years to examine factors influencing school success have indicated that school quality largely depends on the school leaders and what on they do.

Research shows that leadership is second only to teaching among school-related factors as an influence on learning.

Decentralitation and autonomy

- Schools and colleges operate within a legislative framework set down by national, provincial or state parliaments. One of the key aspects of such a framework is the degree of decentralization in the educational system. Highly centralized systems tend to be bureaucratic and to allow little discretion to schools and local communities.
- **Decentralization** involves a process of reducing the role of central government in planning and providing education. It can take many different forms.

Ed leadership and management

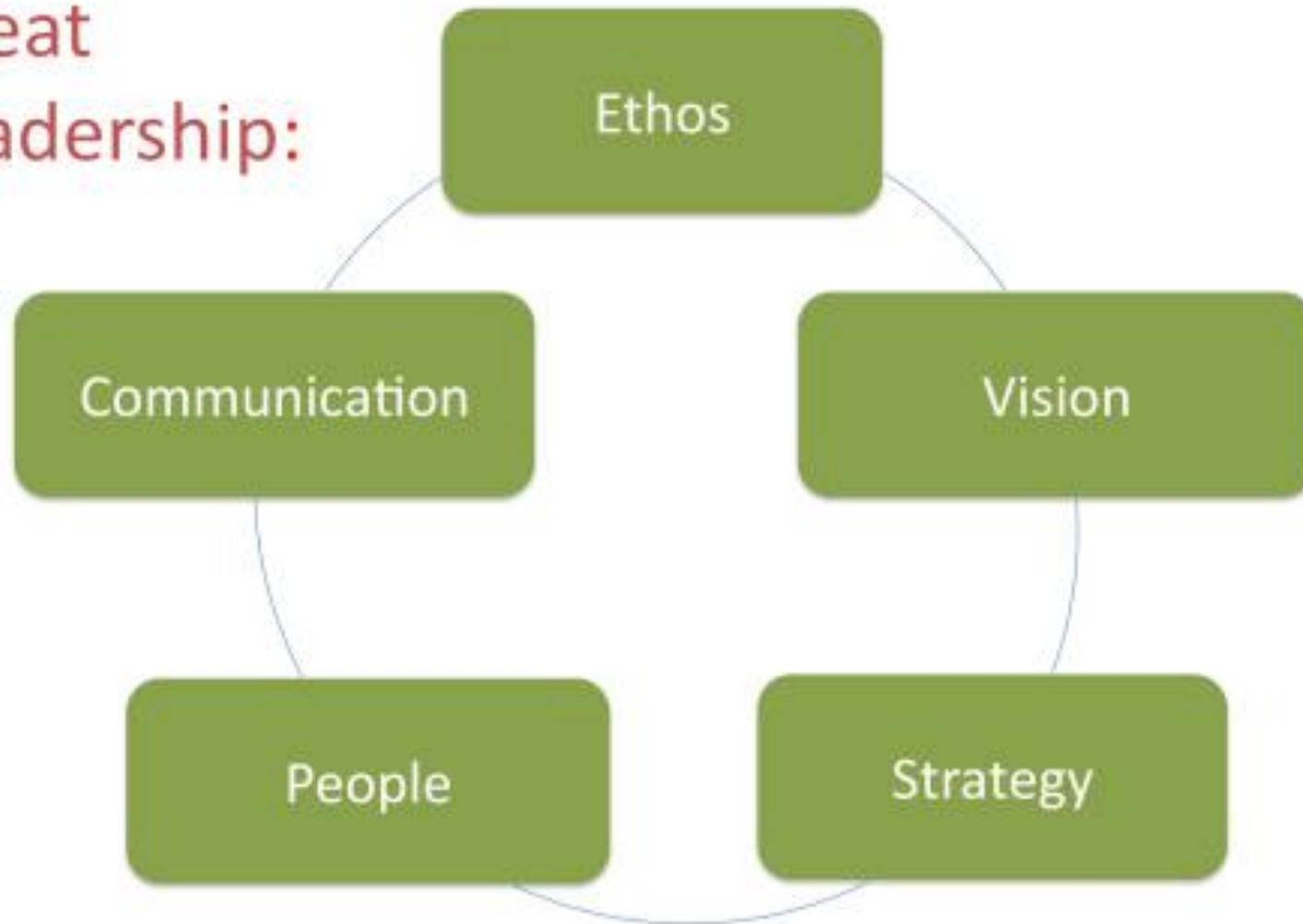
The field of educational leadership and management is pluralist, with many competing perspectives and an inevitable lack of agreement on the exact nature of the discipline. One key debate has been whether educational leadership is a distinct field or simply a branch of the wider study of management.

While education can learn from other settings, educational leadership and management has to be centrally concerned with the purpose or aims of education.

Leadership and management

- By leadership, I mean influencing others' actions in achieving desirable ends. Leaders are people who shape the goals, motivations, and actions of others. Frequently they initiate change to reach existing and new goals ... Leadership ... takes ... much ingenuity, energy and skill.
- Managing is maintaining efficiently and effectively current organisational arrangements. While managing well often exhibits leadership skills, the overall function is toward maintenance rather than change. I prize both managing and leading and attach no special value to either since different settings and times call for varied responses

Great Leadership:



Ed leadership: Theory and practice

Educational leadership is the professional practice of a leader (or leaders) in an administrative role(s) working with, guiding, and influencing educators in a particular context toward improving learning and other educational processes in early childhood education centers and in elementary, secondary, and postsecondary institutions.