

# Leadership From The Inside Out

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# Survey Says!

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- Here is how my coworkers described me:

- Methodical
- Organized
- Efficient
- Matter-of-fact
- Patient
- Deliberate
- Punctual
- Down to Earth
- “Good dose of reality”
- Reliable
- Trustworthy
- Confident
- Open to feedback
- Reflective
- Willing to help



**SURVEY  
SAYS**

# My Leadership Philosophy

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- In my opinion, to be an effective leader you must be **intentional, realistic, and reflective**
- These are important because it helps me **focus, pay attention, and prioritize** different things like:
  - Understanding myself
  - Understanding the situation/context I am in
  - Building relationships
  - Listening versus talking
  - Gathering and understanding facts versus opinions
  - Making informed decisions
  - Devoting time (or not)
  - Resources
- Essentially, it is my way of being **strategic** and **eliminating unwanted noise** from my work and life

# Connections to the Book

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- **Personal**

- “How often have we resisted the input of others...”
- **Feedback can be hard to receive** but it is important, especially from those that are in your arena doing the same work as you
- Others can see your “blind spots”; builds awareness

- **Story**

- “Continually examining our life story gets us closer to our reason for being and contribution”
- I am **reflective** and often wonder if I am doing good work in such a remote area of Canada with at-risk students; it’s a big personal sacrifice for me but I try and zoom out and look at the big picture; I will know when my time is done here for a new chapter

"A lot of cheap seats in the arena are filled with people who never venture onto the floor. They just hurl mean-spirited criticisms and put-downs from a safe distance. Therefore, we need to be selective about the feedback we let into our lives. For me, if you're not in the arena getting your ass kicked, I'm not interested in your feedback."

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BRENÉ BROWN

# Connections to the Book (continued)

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- **Purpose**

- “be purposeful in all domains”
- I try and be **intentional in all aspects of life** but this can be really challenging to balance; I try to prioritize my time between work, PhD, and my partner

- **Interpersonal**

- “We hear the words, but rarely do we really listen.”
- In my experience, people often listen with the intent of replying – stop!
- **I listen more than I talk**, even in my classroom as a teacher; I try to understand all forms of communication when I am with someone; it takes a lot of practice

# Connections to the Book (continued)

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- **Change**

- “He modeled the open, developmental behavior he wanted to see in others.”
- All the books we’ve been reading this term have all said this same thing; leadership vision, mission, goals and attitude **starts at the top**; people have to buy in or else nothing is going to change

- **Resilience**

- “listening to your body” and “balance a connection with a close friend”
- I am learning these are very important and I am trying to **increase my awareness**; I need to take the time to focus more on these things so that my cup is at least half full

# Connections to the Book (continued)

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- **Being**

- “Enjoy the solitude”
- I’ve always been a lone wolf and I enjoy it
- I practice this daily; I try and have quiet time after work
- I listen to music when I work; cooking

- **Coaching**

- I coach students; every day
- I try and give them (almost) immediate specific feedback on all their work; takes a lot of practice to do this well
- I try and promote and develop healthy work habits (i.e. independence, responsibility, collaboration, etc.) that are beyond the curriculum