The V-LACE Video-enhanced Leadership Academy for Character Education

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First, there was LACE

Leadership Academy in Character Education

Inspired by Sanford N. McDonnell and Linda McKay
Leadership Academy in Character Education (LACE)

- Twelve month training for school leaders (n≈30)
- Monthly full day meetings
- National experts/workshop leaders
- Peer support and sharing
- Development of site-specific implementation/assessment plan
Leadership Academy in Character Education (LACE)

- “Starter” character education resource set
- Monthly school team collaborative reflection assignments
- Expert critical feedback/mentoring
- Site visits to NSOC schools
- Attendance at character education conference
Expert, site-specific and personal mentoring which examines and provides feedback on the school plan as it is being created.
National and Local Impact Since 2008:

- LOCAL: 72% of all NSOCs in the St. Louis region are led by a LACE graduate (41/57)

- NATIONAL: 23% of all US NSOCs are in the St. Louis region and led by a LACE graduate (41/178)
Our Presenters
Two New Additions:
JoAnn Freiberg and Pat Ciccone
Not everyone can come to St. Louis once a month to experience our “live” presenters.

So, with the help of HTC and our presenters, we created vLACE (video-based LACE).

An Emmy award winning producer/director filmed each speaker as they made their presentation during the 2012-2013 LACE years.
vLACE

- A **Blended learning** program provides the knowledge and experiences of LACE to cohorts outside the St. Louis region.

- **Full day workshops** of **videotaped segments** are followed by appropriate meaningful activities led by a trained facilitator.

- **Multi-modal learning** is included for the participant: Verbal, auditory, participatory, observational, action steps.

- **Monthly assignments** build a **comprehensive character education plan** that participants complete collaboratively with their school team, at their school site.
Facilitators receive a Replication Manual that provides the monthly assignments and the information necessary for the Facilitator to mentor the participants and their teams through constructive critical feedback on the assignments.

Facilitators receive nine individual binders containing each presenter’s complete workshop, including:
- Biographical description of the presenter
- Opening and closing activity
- DVD disc of all video segments
- Step-by-step printed Facilitator Guide, including directions for each activity and reproducible worksheets for participants.
CERCh Website: vLACE Intro
by Marvin W. Berkowitz
Tom Lickona: Character Conversations and Restorative Justice
Activities and Worksheets

Reproducible worksheets:

- Each video segment has a corresponding worksheet which are to be duplicated by the Facilitator to create a vLACE binder for each participant.
- Participants use the worksheets in some of the activities, and some are provided to depict key concepts from the workshops.
Our Dream

- Recruit vLACE Facilitators in the U.S. and internationally
- Concurrently, allow those Facilitators to experience the live LACE and train them as Facilitators of vLACE
- Translation to additional languages other than English and Chinese