



The Skillful Team Leader: A Resource for Overcoming Hurdles to Professional Learning for Student Achievement

By Elisa B. MacDonald

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Get the most out of your Plcs and teacher teams!

All teams face hurdles. What distinguishes the skillful team leader from a less effective one is his or her approach in overcoming them. MacDonald offers a skillful app

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Editorial Review

Review

"Teacher teams have become a common fixture of North American schools. However, not all teams make the best use of their meeting time by engaging in sustained, professional learning. Written in a clear, practitioner-friendly style, this book provides team leaders with an array of useful strategies to address common team hurdles and realize the promise of powerful, collaborative learning." (Jim Knight, Author of Instructional Coaching 2012-02-11)

"This book is a fantastic resource for me someone who leads teams every day. The vignettes echo the very real challenges that I continually see in team meetings. The book is organized so that I can easily find practical strategies to apply right away when I am facing major challenges in my daily work." (Karen Coyle Aylward, Literacy Coach and Team Leader 2013-02-07)

"This book has become an indispensable guide for me and my leaders. MacDonald has masterfully drawn from her own experiences and from experts in the field to create a practical resource for anyone involved in leadership development or wanting to improve his or her own leadership skills." (Emily Becker, School Innovation Partner 2013-02-07)

"No matter what situation a leader or coach finds themselves in, the answer is going to be somewhere between the pages of this text. Having alternate routes to consider is a plus to the problem solving." (Roxie Ahlbrecht, Math Intervention Specialist 2012-09-19)

"This book does an excellent job of living up to its title. The author addresses a variety of roadblocks leaders face?whether they are teachers or administrators?and offers suggestions to help overcome these obstacles." (David G. Daniels, High School Principal 2012-09-19)

"MacDonald's book provides "real talk" and real solutions to problems that arise in schools. She does not tip toe around issues. She confronts them and writes about practical ways to both avoid potential hurdles and deal with issues when they arise." (Carline Kelly, Teacher 2013-02-11)

About the Author

For over two decades **Elisa MacDonald** has worked and led others in education to lead with purpose, achieve high impact and shape school culture. Elisa created national networks of training and support for teachers who led teams in underperforming schools in five cities, where she worked as National Director of Teacher Leadership for the T3 initiative at Teach Plus. When working at Teachers21, a non-profit founded by Jon Saphier, Elisa consulted with superintendents, principals, teacher leaders and school faculties in over twenty school districts in Massachusetts. She planned and delivered professional development on topics such as: leadership, professional learning communities, teaming, literacy and behavior management. Elisa served a fourteen-year tenure in the Boston public schools as a secondary drama/english teacher, lead mentor, literacy coach and assistant principal of instruction. Today, she is an author and international independent consultant offering in-person and virtual consulting.

Elisa is the recipient of the Calderwood Writing Fellowship, the English Speaking Union Treadwell Scholarship, and was a Steppingstone finalist for a middle school curriculum unit she wrote. She has

presented at national conferences and delivered international leadership webinars.

Elisa is interested in student achievement by means of team leadership. She is the author of the best-selling Corwin book, *The Skillful Team Leader: Overcoming Hurdles to Professional Learning for Student Achievement*, honored as 1 of 4 books selected by Learning Forward for their 2013 Book Club. Elisa has authored numerous articles. Please visit her website to learn more. www.elisamacdonald.com

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Paul Eastman:

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