



Assistant Principal *Ex*celeration

Show Notes, Episode 2: **Why is Instructional Leadership so Hard?**

About this show:

Have you noticed how many first-year teachers have trouble managing their classrooms? And if they never receive really good support, they become 5 and 10-year teachers who can't manage their classrooms. And then they leave the profession.

But guess what? We have a similar problem in the principalship. Most (not all) principals are not fully prepared to meet the challenges of instructional leadership. And if they never get really good support, their trajectories can mirror that of the teachers I just mentioned.

This issue is the reason I started this podcast, the reason I do a daily leadership email, it is the focus of my trainings and courses, and it is at the heart of my APEX program. If you've been listening for a while, you know that instructional leadership is a common focus. Today, we are going to look at the problem of developing instructional leaders and some things I think we can do about it.

Notable Quotes

Frederick:

"In a perfect organization, which does not exist, the people, the structures, and the resources are all aligned to the purpose, and to each other. And a perfectly aligned organization is a great place to work. Unfortunately, it is the nature of organizations to be in disalignment rather than alignment"

"You have two basic responsibilities... Your primary job is to keep everybody safe. Number two is to improve student learning and outcomes for students. Now, you don't teach students, so the way that you do that is by growing your teachers. In other words, you have two responsibilities: keep everybody safe and help your teachers get better."

"We can't manage time, time is finite, there is only so much of it, there is nothing to manage. What we have to manage is priorities"

"Really good instructional leadership is also about systems alignment"

Links:

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The Assistant Principal Podcast website: <https://www.frederickbuskey.com/appodcast.html>

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