GSF Leadership Connect

Introduction

Leadership Connect, the name of Global Schools Forum’s upcoming offer, will convene senior leaders from our member organisations to speak, connect, and ideate with their peers and selective experts on themes relevant to operating a high-performing educational organisation in a world emerging from COVID-19. Leadership Connect will be characterized by the intellectually rigorous and deeply engaging collaboration that makes the GSF membership experience so special.

As members emerge from COVID-19, our primary objective is for participants to deepen their organisational capacity to support students, families, staff and the organisation as a whole. Throughout the series, members will:

- Engage with relevant and rigorous readings and guests to stimulate thinking
- Interact with colleagues within the GSF community to share challenges and problem-solve
- Lead and present on their own practices, as they relate to the specific topic
Leadership Connect: The Content

The series consists of six targeted inquiry questions (one per month) over the span of six months; each inquiry question will align to members’ efforts to support students, families, staff, and the organisation as a whole. The inquiry questions will ensure the discussions are intellectually challenging, relevant and focussed on practical solutions. Possible questions include:

- How do I measure and recoup the loss of learning caused by COVID-19? (Students)
- How are my students’ experiencing school in a post-COVID world? How do I support their different needs? (Students)
- To what extent is staff performance impacted by COVID-19? How do I find out? How do I support them once I have this knowledge? (Staff)
- How do I help teachers to get better if coaching and support is not consistently live? (Staff)
- To what extent does the role of the caregiver change with regard to their support of the educational programme? (Families)
- To what extent do our organisational values need to be adapted to fit the current context? (Organisational Health)

Leadership Connect: The Structure

Each topic will consist of some level of pre-work and will culminate in an online meeting once a month.

Example of Pre-work:
- Pre-reading and reflection questions (15-30 min of time)
- 1:1 check-in with a peer from a GSF member organization (chosen by the participants themselves)

Example of In-session:
- Presentation on the topic (aligned to the pre-reading) by a member or an outside expert or guest.
- Small-group discussions among the GSF participants, broken out by similarities (roles, context, organisational model)
Attendees
This offer is open to the leadership teams of any GSF member organisation. Our target audience consists of senior leaders in your organization who make decisions about:
- Academic approach
- Organisational culture
- Talent and recruitment

Commitment and Participation
Sessions will be interlinked to some degree and we encourage regular participation. Any leadership team member(s) from your organisation can participate on the org’s behalf. We recommend that you pick a specific member(s) for each learning session who will attend and share with the other members of the leadership team. *We are balancing the need for a consistent community with the very real demands on our members; for that reason, attendance at every session, while recommended, is by no means mandatory.*

Tentative dates for the online learning sessions
Wednesday, 17th June
Wednesday, 15th July
Wednesday, 12th August
Wednesday, 16th September
Wednesday, 18th November
Wednesday, 16th December