

# Education leadership

Education



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Section/# Questions/Answers 3 Administers policies that provide a safe school environment Although the Ron Clark model relies on technological tools to ensure that administrators and students enjoy a safe school environment, the largest single implement that the approach encourages is a very high level of personal responsibility. This approach is much needed due to the fact that it is reasonable to assume that the overall level of personal responsibility within our current system has dropped to an all time low. Rather than building a type of fortress in which everyone is suspected of some type of infraction until verified otherwise, Clark's model relies on the personal responsibility of the individual participants within the system to administer the policies that ensure a safe environment to all involved.

### 3. 2 Plans for the accomplishment of strategic goals

The first and primary goal is to focus on the end that leads to the maximalization of utility for the learning process. As such, the ways in which strategic goals and plans are implemented are entirely concentric around this. Rather than getting caught up in the minutia that many other educational approaches are so oftentimes ensnared, Clark's approach seeks to focus on the end goal as a means of attempting to gain both educator and student buy in for the strategic goals and changes that will be pursued. This model helps to keep both parties focused on the true goal rather than becoming distracted by minutia.

### 3. 3 Manages the daily operations of the school

What is unique about Clark's approach is the fact that many of the positions that may be required at a traditional school such as substitute teachers are not a requirement for his model. Rather, it is beholden upon the other staff members to shift their schedules and classes so that the subject matter can

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be covered with the class regardless (Clark 2011). Again, this focuses on the personal responsibility framework and encourages educators to not miss a single day of class for any reason other than a legitimate one.

3. 4 Is aware of the various fiscal and non fiscal resources for the school including business and community resources

What is unique about Ron Clark's approach to education is that he fully embraces corporate sponsors in attempting to recruit the raw capital that is required to perform the educational experimentation and development that his model encompasses. Although many forms of education have actively sought to separate themselves from such "corporate" sponsorship, Clark has embraced this due to the fact that it is highly likely that many of the students that he serves to educate will at least at some point in their life be employed by such a sponsoring entity. In this way Clark does not see that such sponsorship dilutes the educational process; rather, it is a form of capital that he and his team of educators can draw upon and a mutually beneficial implement for the sponsoring entity as they are seeking to create a tax write-off and a better more educated society as the same time.

#### Reference

Clark, R. (2011, January 6). Ron Clark Academy Teachers Frequently Asked Questions. Ron Clark Academy. Retrieved November 6, 2012, from <http://www.ronclarkacademy.com/faq/faq-teacher.aspx>