SOME COMMON QUALITIES OF EFFECTIVE LEADERS

Leadership qualities or skills will be required of most individuals at varying times throughout their lifetimes. Many students seek and/or are involved (or will be involved) in leadership roles in their homes, communities, and occupations. In addition, a growing number are electing to become entrepreneurs, an undertaking which, if one is to be successful, requires proficiency in most, if not all, of the qualities cited below.

1. Good sense of self-understanding
2. Good self-management skills and can be depended on
3. Active listeners
4. Strong sense of identity, purpose, and self-esteem
5. Open and demonstrate a thirst for new learning and applications
6. Ability to understand and be sensitive (respectful, trusting, polite, accepting, etc.) as it relates to the needs of others
7. Ability to persuade and influence others
8. Empowers others (allows others to have authority, power, and responsibility to develop and grow)
9. Good organizational skills
10. Ability to establish and/or maintain unified direction
11. Possess a sense of vision, overall picture, foresight
12. Takes initiative
13. Ability to facilitate effective communication
14. Ability to set goals and make appropriate decisions
15. Ability to resolve or diffuse conflicts
16. Ability to accept consequences and admit shortcomings
17. Commitment
18. Often leads and models by serving others