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!!! 3 things learned

! – Maximizing leaders think about individual potential but at the same time they think about the collective potential. They find ways to lead both the individual and the collective group towards the goal through questioning. There were some great examples in the part that helped me to understand what the author was getting at.

! – Questions help people get out of the trap of “their own paradigms” and consider other perspectives – a by-product is an enhanced self-worth.

!-Purpose is the key to energy and power. It is hard not to go to actions first but if the purpose is not clear or there is not a clear understanding of the purpose then actions may become unfocused and meaningless “too loose” or “too tight”. I loved the quote by Stephen Covey “if we don’t take the time to make sure our ladder is leaning against the right wall before we take action, every step simply gets us to the wrong place faster.”

++ 2 connections made

+ The opening quote got me thinking, leadership qualitites appear among the followers was the gist and it was followed by the question “are the followers reaching their potential?”. I think this is worth consideration. I recall a time when I was told my my principal that she thought I would be a good grade level leader and it took me totally by surprise. I had not considered that; however, because of her comment I did begin stepping out of my comfort zone to take on some leadership responsibilities in the next place that I taught (unfortunately the conversation between her and me took place as I was submitting my resignation.) I wonder if I would have taken the leadership path I did if it had not been for her recognizing and commenting on the potential she saw in me. I hope that I can do that for others, because we do have some great potential leaders out there who may need encouragement.

+ In looking at the Dialogue Tool, under “Listening” I found those questions speaking to me. Sometimes I spend so much time thinking about what my next comment will be, that I totally do not listen to the speaker. How selfish is that ? I am too quick to speak and too slow to listen. I need lots of practice in this area.

? 1 question

? – How can we get commitment rather than compliance? (This leads to deeper changes.) Commitment takes longer, I think, to forge. Do we settle for compliance in the interest of time and then sacrifice true commitment?