



# Association of Washington Student Leaders

## Student Leaders and the AWSP Leadership Framework

*School leadership is principals, teacher leaders and students working collaboratively to create the best school environment in the world. The AWSP Leadership Framework is the foundation for this collaboration. Working independently only perpetuates ineffective systems. Working interdependently makes the impossible possible.*

Dr. Scott Seaman, Executive Director, Association of Washington School Principals

Student leaders are a part of a school's leadership team. Principals foster success by working to achieve excellence in eight defined areas in the Leadership Framework. Student leaders can also be doing positive work in these areas. Though the approaches might be different, the goals are the same: all students in the school achieve academic and social success. With student leaders actively involved, the Leadership Framework becomes the foundation for everything that happens in a school.

What Principals are asked to do...	AWSL Executive Committee Belief Statements	What student leaders can be doing...
Influence, establish and sustain a school culture conducive to continuous improvement.	We believe that students and staff thrive in a culture where they feel valued and supported.	Create a place where kids <i>want</i> to come to school instead of <i>having</i> to come to school. Help your principal establish a school climate where kids feel supported, included and are able to develop to their full potential.
Lead the development of a comprehensive safe schools plan that includes prevention, intervention, crisis response and recovery.	We believe that every student deserves to experience not only physical but emotional safety; this condition, in turn, precipitates belongingness and success.	Stop bullying in its tracks. Stand up for what is right, kind and fair. Help your principal establish a school environment where kids are physically, socially and emotionally safe.
Lead the development, implementation and evaluation of the data-driven plan for improvement of student achievement.	We believe that principals are informed best with data collected by student leaders who can articulate the voice of their fellow students.	Become the eyes and ears and heart and soul of your school. Listen, watch, observe and talk to your principal! Help your principal collect and analyze data to improve the effectiveness of the school system.
Help align curricula to state and local district learning goals and align assessment practices to best instructional practices.	We believe in making it a priority to increase student learning by developing new study strategies and leading by example in the classroom environment.	Make the job of being a teacher easier by being a role model for others in class. Organize meaningful teacher appreciation events.
Evaluate staff in effective instruction and assessment practices and assist staff in identifying valid, reliable sources of evidence of effectiveness.	We believe that classroom instruction can be improved through providing feedback for teachers and actively participating in class.	Learn what you are taught. Be kind to the guest teachers. Help your principal establish a school with a positive academic identity.
Manage human and fiscal resources to accomplish student achievement goals.	We believe that student leaders must establish a relationship with principals in order to properly use ASB funds and to manage resources within the school.	Be responsible with your Associated Student Body funds. Help your principal utilize the scarce human and fiscal resources available to the school to their fullest.
Communicate and partner with school community members to promote student learning.	We believe that as student leaders, we have a duty to make our schools active members in their communities.	Don't frighten the adults! Make the community feel proud that you are the future. Help your principal create opportunities for positive interaction between the school and members of the community.
Demonstrate a commitment to closing the achievement gap.	We believe that student leaders need to advocate for equitable opportunities to promote the success of all students regardless of circumstance.	Leave no one behind! Graduate with all of your peers. Be a mentor to younger students. Help your principal close the achievement gap between the kids who are graduating and meeting standard and the kids who are not.



# Association of Washington Student Leaders

## Principals Partnering with Student Leaders

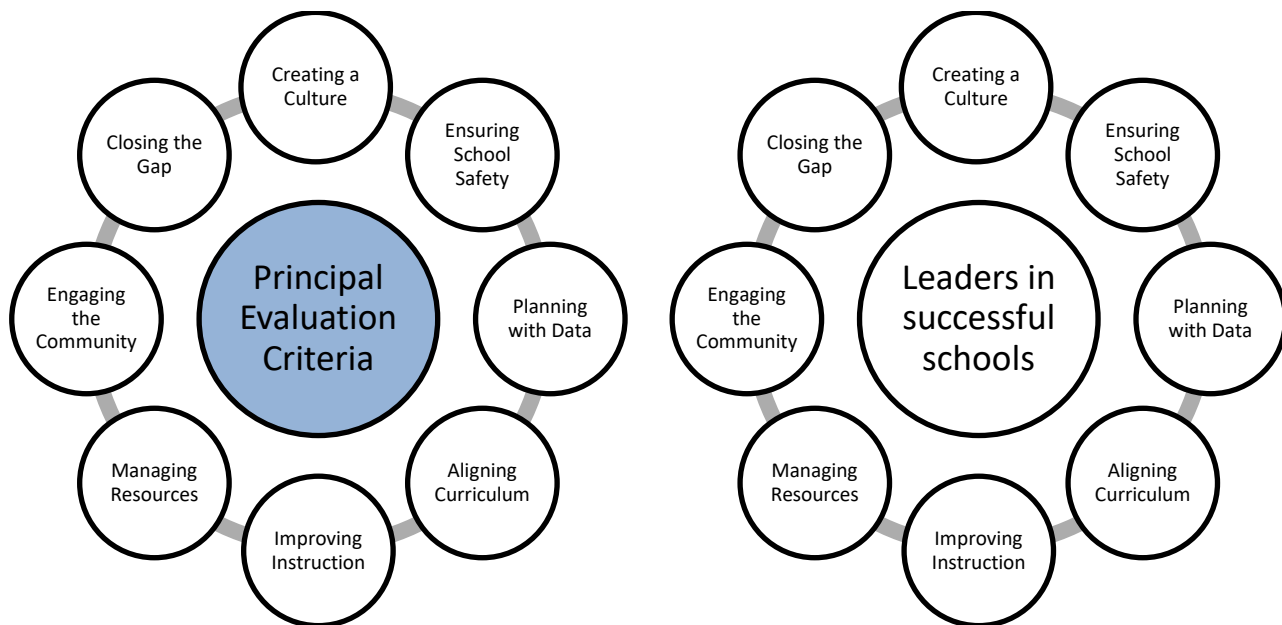
*When students know their work is focused around the same framework as the principals, they are able to provide the very best options for their peers that align with our work as adults.*

Anecia Grigsby, Assistant Principal, Sammamish High School, Bellevue School District

In the early registration brochures for summer camp in the 1950s, a message from the principals reads: "Washington high school summer workshops are made possible through the combined efforts of all the secondary school principals throughout the state. They believe in and foster student participation through the student council." Students were placed in a system where they participated in student council to plan their activities while the school was managed by the principal. By the 1970s, a new paradigm beyond student participation was born out of the Vietnam war and youth movement: student voice. When 18-20 year-olds around the country rallied to pass the 26th amendment, their main argument was that if they were old enough to fight in a war, then they were old enough to vote on the representatives that were sending them to war. Student leaders in schools continued to participate, but they now could provide input into the school system. Their opinions on school issues were solicited, and what they said mattered.

So what is the role of student leaders now?

If we push forward on the evolving arc of student involvement utilizing the AWSP Leadership Framework, the new paradigm is that of partner in educational outcomes. A simple rephrasing of a graphic brings this point to light.



We are teaching this slight-of-hand graphic to both high school and middle level school students that participate in one of our Washington Student Leadership programs or trainings. It is now a main staple of our curriculum. We explain that leaders in schools need to be focused on these concepts. And, just like a principal, they too are a leader in a school. The words principals use to explain one of the criteria might be different and what they decide to do might be different than what student leaders decide to do, yet the question is the same: how can schools help all students achieve academic and social success by creating a culture, ensuring school safety, planning with data, aligning curriculum, improving instruction, managing resources, engaging the community and closing the gap?