

NISL

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR
SCHOOL LEADERSHIP™



LEADERSHIP SERIES



LEADERSHIP FOR EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE

*Need to Raise Science Achievement?
NISL Will Help You Do That.*



In the high-tech, high-skills world of the 21st century, students need science skills, knowledge, and understanding to succeed as workers and citizens. But today, U.S. science achievement ranks near the bottom of world rankings and most principals are ill-prepared to improve it.

Principals do not need to be science experts to dramatically improve science achievement in their schools, but they do need to become strong instructional leaders. This requires principals to develop skills in identifying and implementing instructional best practices, helping teachers work collaboratively, providing high-quality professional development, and observing and evaluating teachers in ways that ensure improvement in science instruction.

That's why the National Institute for School Leadership (NISL) has developed a two-day Leadership for Excellence in Science Institute — to help principals become instructional leaders for science education.

[NISL] is designed to equip principals with the tools and knowledge needed to lead their schools to become high-performing schools with high expectations and high student achievement for all.

— SHEILA MAHER

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction,
Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD (TX)

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THE NISL SOLUTION

The Institute helps school leaders address many of the key challenges in science education. During the Institute, principals:

- ▲ **Address the beliefs, behaviors, and consequences** that characterize the present circumstances for science education in their schools.
- ▲ **Determine potential reforms and best practice models** that can strengthen science education in their schools.
- ▲ **Identify, implement, and support instructional activities for science education** by using creative and innovative instructional leadership and distributed leadership principles.
- ▲ **Plan next steps and appropriate leadership actions** that emphasize clear expectations, high standards, effort, and achievement.

THE NISL ADVANTAGE

NISL is the national leader in providing high-quality professional development for principals. We offer:

- ▲ *Professional development for school leaders that focuses on teaching and learning.*
- ▲ *Practical solutions based on the latest research.*
- ▲ *High-quality training materials and curriculum, as well as multimedia and online learning.*
- ▲ *The ability to roll out training on a large scale with facilitators whom you choose.*
- ▲ *Strong, experienced faculty members who tailor the Institute to fit the needs of your school leaders.*



HANDS-ON LEARNING FOR PRINCIPALS

This intensive course for school leaders starts with the theoretical underpinnings of sound science instruction — such as the importance of evidence-based explanation and engagement with phenomena — and

ends with the role of the principal in developing a schoolwide action plan for science achievement. Along the way, participants take part in a number of hands-on science activities and experiments, designed to emulate best practices in science instruction and the most effective techniques in adult learning from education and other fields.





A SOUND INVESTMENT

Providing high-quality, interactive science training for your principals doesn't need to break your budget. NISL can provide this Institute for a cohort of up to 25 school leaders in your system for just \$15,000. Each cohort can be expanded to 40 participants for an additional \$375 per principal. These costs covers all course materials, including a binder full of useful research information, case studies, discussion topics, school assessments, activity templates, and interactive CD-Roms.

Districts or states can also train multiple cohorts using NISL's train-the-trainer approach. In this model, NISL trains several local leaders that you select to become certified NISL facilitators who then train their peers using NISL's curriculum. Several states and large districts have already taken advantage of this approach in order to provide NISL's unique, research-based training for all of their school leaders.

All of the Institutes in the Leadership Series are built off the success of NISL's flagship program, a 15-month Executive Development Program for school leaders. This program is the result of an \$11 million research and development effort funded by some of the largest and most respected foundations in education. A Broad Foundation evaluation of NISL's programs found that it is "one of [The Broad Foundation's] most successful investments in principal training."

INSTITUTE TOPICS INCLUDE:

Day One:

- Current State of Science Education in the U.S.
- Instruction Based on National Science Standards
- Fair and Accurate Science Assessments
- Selection of Classroom and Laboratory Materials

Day Two:

- Instructional Best Practices for Science
- Designing Science Instruction for All Grade Levels
- Action Planning for Excellence in Science Achievement

COURSE ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Sample Science Lessons
- Gap Analyses of Each School's Science Program
- Video Observations
- Online Activities
- Participant Presentations
- Group Discussions
- Facilitator Mini-Lectures

"Unlike some of the other programs we've experimented with in our district, NISL is a course of study. It has a series of units that are connected and they culminate with real-school applications that practicing principals can take back to their schools and immediately begin to apply."

—TERRI STAHLMAN,
Chief Technology Officer and
Former Regional Superintendent,
Duval County Public Schools, Jacksonville, FL

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www.nisl.net

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