

# ***Introduction to Leadership***

## **Syllabus**

Fall 2022

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**Canvas:** <https://madisonschoolsva.instructure.com/courses/2843>

Welcome to MCHS Integrated Leadership introductory class. The structure of this class will consist of group activities, planning for school/community events, and the introduction of Family, Career, Community Leaders of America (FCCLA).

### **Basic Course Description:**

This course is designed to provide a basic introduction to leadership by focusing on what it means to be a good leader. Emphasis in the course is on the practice of leadership. The course will examine topics such as: understanding leadership; recognizing leadership traits; engaging people's strengths; understanding philosophy and styles; attending to tasks and relationships; developing leadership skills; creating a vision; establishing a constructive climate; listening to out-group members; handling conflict; addressing ethics in leadership and overcoming obstacles. Students will assess their leadership traits and skills to improve their own leadership performance. We will be using state competencies as outlined by the Virginia Department of Education to help guide us throughout the semester.

Here are some of the basic areas we will study:

- Personal Development (Self-concept, emotional intelligence, public speaking, and standards & principles)
- Relationships with others (peer pressure, family and personal relationships)
- Responsibility for our actions (consequences of our choices & how to turn ourselves into leaders)
- Community/Civic Responsibility
- Communication Skills
- Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA)

### **Class Objectives:**

- Develop an understanding of leadership and explore characteristics of successful leaders
- Learn how to become effective leaders
- Analyze styles, skills, strengths, and weaknesses of leaders

- Apply the leadership concepts learned to daily life
- Initiate group and individual service projects to benefit others
- Commit to being a role model and document growth as a leader in journal
- Contribute to organizations, teams, and school-wide activities
- Analyze and understand the organization Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America

**Leadership class is NOT . . .**

- a time to do homework
- a time to sleep
- a time to run personal errands.

**Leadership class IS . . .**

- a time to learn and polish leadership skills
- a time to learn more about yourself and what you stand for
- a time to laugh (and cry?) and have fun working together
- a time to learn time management, organization, discipline, Diplomacy, and persistence

**Classroom Procedures:**

- 1) Respect must be given to the teacher, classmates, and Madison County High School at all times. This is of utmost importance because of the topics we discuss and the projects that we do!
- 2) Students will always act in a manner that corresponds to the MCHS Code of Conduct.
- 3) If you are absent, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE for obtaining any make-up work and/or turning in assignments.
- 4) Each of you will be evaluated based upon several factors: daily assignments, journals, projects, workplace readiness, speeches and participation.
- 5) Students will not be allowed to use phones in any manner unless specifically told to do so.
- 6) Students will follow all class expectations established by both the teacher and fellow students.

**Grading Policy:** It is impossible to earn an “A” in leadership without showing initiative on the assignments and projects for which you are responsible, and without complying with the class expectations. An “A” means you have consistently demonstrated initiative, an attitude of service, and maturity.

**Ask yourself the following . . .**

- *Do I have a “my project’s done” attitude, or do I volunteer to help others with their projects?*
- *Do I monitor my own noise level and make effective use of my time?*
- *Do I complete my responsibilities without reminders?*

- *Do I handle the independence and freedom in this course with class and integrity?*

**Problem areas which will affect this part of your grade:**

- Unwillingness to help others
- “Disappearing” when there is work to be done
- Standing and “supervising” while others work
- Needing reminders to follow classroom guidelines
- Using your phone for any reason during class unless specifically allowed

Daily assignments will be composed of but not limited to warm-up activities, worksheets, project evaluations, icebreakers, journals, and other miscellaneous activities. All of the activities are building toward one end: to continue to expand and develop leadership in the student. Because of this goal, we will do a wide range of activities. Conjointly, we are following a state curriculum, we must also have a grading system. The grades will be attained using these percentages:

Participation, Classwork, Workplace Readiness —40%

Presentations/speeches, Projects, and Tests — 60%

**Supplies:**

- Chromebook (charged and ready daily)
- Journal Book (if you prefer handwriting)
- Positive Attitude
- Grace and Patience

**Canvas Info:** <https://madisonschoolsva.instructure.com/courses/2843>

**State Competency List:**

[https://virtualvirginia.instructure.com/courses/9504/pages/student-competency-records?module\\_item\\_id=2944334](https://virtualvirginia.instructure.com/courses/9504/pages/student-competency-records?module_item_id=2944334)

**A note to parents:** I am excited about this class. This is my first time teaching Leadership, and every day I learn something new about leadership and innovative ways to impart that information on to the kids! I am grateful for the opportunity to teach these great kids. If you ever have any questions regarding this class or your child’s participation in it, please let me know. I am more than willing to discuss them or help in any way. Thank you for allowing me to teach your child!