

The following texts are required for EDA 6347, Seminar in the Superintendency:

Smoley, E. R., Jr. (1999). *Effective school boards: Strategies for improving board performance* San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers.

Patterson, J. (2000). *The anguish of leadership*. Arlington, VA.: The American Association of School Administrators.

Norton, M. S., Webb, L. D., Dlugosh, L. L., and Sybouts, W. (1996). *The school superintendency: New responsibilities, new leadership*. Needham, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

Rebore, R. W.(2001). *The ethics of educational leadership*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Merrill/Prentice Hall.

All texts may be ordered through the Southwest Texas State University Bookstore or online at amazon.com or Barnes and Noble.

Basic Information

Welcome to **EDA 6347, Seminar in the Superintendency**. This is a **web enhanced** course which uses the internet to communicate reading and writing assignments and for dialog between the instructor and students. Students will also be able to talk to one another to exchange information during the semester. There will also be three times during the semester when the class will meet together as a group for a day-long seminar. Times and locations for the seminars will be determined later but **attendance is mandatory**. Make sure your calendar is clear.

Leadership Practices Inventory. As part of this course, you will have an opportunity to assess your leadership style using the Leadership Practices Inventory (LPI) developed by Kouzes and Posner. The complete LPI consists of a 30-item self-assessment and an accompanying assessment to be filled out by five of your colleagues. Copies of the LPI Self and Observer, along with stamped, self-addressed envelopes, will be provided. Scoring of the instrument will be done here on campus and a leadership profile will be developed for each one of you. This profile will assist you in planning your reading, your intern experiences, and your long-term professional growth.

Seminar sessions. We will meet together as a group four times during the semester for a Saturday seminar session. Sessions will begin promptly at 9.00 AM and conclude at 5.00 PM. Each seminar will focus on the skills and knowledge identified in one of the Proficiencies for Superintendent Certification. Your task is to come prepared to participate in the seminar by completing any and all assignments.

Mentors. As part of this course, we hope to identify a group of mentors for students preparing to be superintendents. The mentors, who are practicing superintendents, will be someone to whom you can turn for information and advice and who will work with you to make this course as relevant and field-based as possible.

Email addresses and fax numbers. To facilitate communication with the instructor and with other members of the seminar, you will need to supply an email address and a fax number. Please see that these are submitted to me by the end of the first week of the semester.

Communicating with seminar members. You may communicate with other seminar members by posting **threaded discussion messages** on the Discussion Board. You will be conducting on-line discussions with myself and with other seminar members using this technique. Please remember to use tact when you respond. Messages posted in response to an assignment should be on the Board within five days. Monitoring and responding to messages posted on the discussion board is part of the responsibilities of all seminar members. The instructor modifies and evaluates threaded discussions.

Contacting the instructor. Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have questions about the course, the reading and writing assignments, the seminars, or any other topic. My email address is mb01@swt.edu. Fax number is 512-245-8872 and my office phone is 512-245.3759.

External Links. Be sure to check in with the course's external links. Each of them have important information we will use in the course as well as information that will be important to you in the field. You can log on to the SBEC link for information and a study guide for the superintendent's ExCet exam. We'll do some work with this information later in the course.

Competencies Addressed

This course is designed to address the following Competencies for the Superintendent Certificate

Domain #1 Leadership of the Educational Community

001. The superintendent knows how to act with integrity, fairness, and in an ethical manner in order to promote the success of all students.

002. The superintendent knows how to shape district culture by facilitating the development, articulation, implementation, and stewardship of a vision of learning that is shared and supported by the educational community.

003. The superintendent knows how to communicate and collaborate with families and community members, respond to diverse community interests and needs, and mobilize community resources to ensure educational success for all students.

004. The superintendent knows how to respond to and influence the larger political, social, economic, legal, and cultural context, including working with the board of trustees, to achieve the district's educational vision.

Domain #3 Administrative Leadership

010. The superintendent knows how to apply organizational, decision-making, and problem-solving skills to facilitate positive change in varied contexts.