Jenifer Dackermann

EDAS 6220

Summer 2011

June 27, 2011

Case Study: Chapter 4

**Standard 2:** A school administrator is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by advocating, nurturing, and sustaining a school culture and instructional program conducive to student learning and staff professional growth.

This case study focuses on a reading program issue within a middle school. The principal has discovered that her students are reading below norms for the school system as well as the nation. Administrators at the high school also indicate that the students from this middle school have less well-developed reading skills. Teachers and media specialists in this school have also expressed concern about the overall literacy of the students.

The principal decides that the reading program should become one of the areas targeted in the School Improvement Plan. A force field analysis is performed to analyze the problem so that action plans can be created to solve the problem.

I think this case speaks to the principal’s role as an educational leader in the school. One of the aspects that I think is important to keep in mind is that the creation of the action plans involves key stakeholders not just the principal dictating how to resolve the problem. Staff buy-in through being invested in the problem and the solutions is critical to actually having a chance of resolving the problem. Using proven brainstorming techniques, project planning techniques, calendars, and charting all ensure that the focus is kept on the issue and that there is an organized approach to the action plans so that the goals are accomplished and effective evaluation can determine the success of the action plans.