



Blue Sky Thinkers




[Blue Sky Video – The Anxious Generation – Jonathan Haidt and Simon Siyek](#) discusses Haidt’s recent book, and pose questions that are critical to education and educators. ([Click here](#))

Interested in help on this topic. GenWell ([Click here](#)) is doing some ABSOLUTELY incredible work in this space. Creating social connection, understanding the challenges of technology. They have student, faculty-staff, student leadership and parent sessions ready to deliver. Can’t recommend them, or the content more.

[Blue Sky Best of Recent National Organization Readings](#)

	<p>Navigating the Future of Education: Trends Impacting Schools Today - NAIS (Click Here) By Jackie Wolking</p> <p><i>“In our work over the past few years leading NAIS’s Strategy Lab workshops with schools, we’ve consistently heard five trends surface that are presenting challenges for school leaders—and will continue to for the near future.”</i></p> <p>An outstanding view of the top five challenges for Independent Schools, and key considerations on how to address them. Speaks to the previous section on leadership retreats, and perhaps some of these topics forming the basis of more generative exploratory conversations.</p>
	<p>Case Study: Building a New Hiring Process – NAIS (Click Here) By: Doug Poskitt</p>

	<p>“For years, frustrations had been bubbling among our academic leadership group (middle and upper school division heads and myself, dean of faculty), and as the school welcomed several new administrative team members, we started to have open conversations about how our hiring process was falling short. There was surely more we could be doing to recruit and attract top talent—and to streamline our efforts across the school for a more effective approach that would set employees up to stay.”</p> <p>The author outlines the challenges and gives some very clear suggestions on how schools need to look at their processes and consider adding new elements to their hiring in order to get better results. A must read.</p>
	<p>Net Assets – NBOA – “Episode 1: The Teamwork Behind a Turnaround” Lakefield College School (Click Here) By DDI –</p> <p>“This first episode of the Net Assets Podcast highlights the head of school-business officer partnership behind a remarkable enrollment turnaround at Lakefield College School, a day and boarding school in Lakefield, Ontario. Head of School Anne-Marie Kee and Associate Head of School and CFO and Tim Rutherford share how school leadership embraced the school’s long-standing identity, and the entire faculty and staff communicated that value to parents and students.”</p> <p>No analysis needed. One of your own.</p>

Blue Sky Leadership Retreats

	<p>“Why It’s Time To Plan A Look-Ahead Leadership Retreat” (Click here) By Robert B. Tucker</p> <p>“One surefire way to signify the pivot to this new environment is to host a strategic leadership offsite. Designed well, this meeting can become a transformational moment for your organization.”</p> <p>Forbes Magazine presents the case for post-pandemic retreats and lays out six key principles: Use your offsite retreat to ask fundamental questions; Use your retreat to “future proof” your organization; Use the leadership retreat to think about the digital future; Use your offsite meeting to assault industry and company assumptions; Use the offsite gathering to focus on innovation execution; Use the retreat to focus on white space opportunities</p>
	<p>“EMPOWERING LEADERS: HOW LEADERSHIP RETREATS SHAPE VISIONARY MINDS” (Click Here) By: Taylor Moreno</p>

“In today’s rapidly changing landscape, the importance of leadership development cannot be overstated. It is essential for leaders to continually evolve, inspire their teams, and navigate complex challenges.”

If you are planning a retreat yourself, or engaging someone to facilitate one, this document lays out all of the important elements that should be considered if an organization is to reap the most value out of the time away. A quick guide/checklist with the most important elements of retreat planning.



“Key Benefits to having an Annual Team Retreat”

[\(Click Here\)](#)

By: George Arabian

“When executed the right way, with leadership buy-in, annual team retreats actually have the potential to influence major positive change in organizations. Done right, they enhance your company’s culture while also building a better plan for the year ahead and encouraging collaboration”

The biggest takeaways here are that planning, planning, and more planning will result in an effective retreat that can have significant value to the organization.

Blue Sky Thinkers

