

# Blue Sky Thinkers




## Blue Sky Education in 2024

	<p><b>Looking Back to Move Forward: Understanding Progressive Education in the 21st Century – (<a href="#">Click Here</a>) - TIMOTHY P. TIPPETT, JACQUELYN J. LEE</b></p> <p><b>From the article - “In Pedagogy of the Oppressed (2006), Friere states that humans exist “as beings in the process of becoming—as unfinished, uncompleted beings in and with a likewise unfinished reality.”</b></p> <p>A great general read that stimulates further discussion around, “where are we on this journey?”. “For progressive education, experience serves as the source from which knowledge emerges. Because progressive education is concerned with the emergence (as opposed to transmission) of knowledge, the learner must undergo a transformative experience.”</p>
	<p><b>“Shaping the Future: A Vision for Educational Leadership in 2024” (<a href="#">Click Here</a>) – Luis Valentino</b></p> <p><b>“Reflecting on a vision for educational leadership in 2024, I underscore the significance of embracing new beginnings, fostering growth, and crafting a future enriched with innovation and inclusivity.”</b></p> <p>The author outlines some of the key considerations he believes are important for 2024, as well as providing some reflective questions and tasks for moving forward.</p>
	<p><b>“Curriculum Philosophies for the 21st Century: What is Old and What is New?” (<a href="#">Click here</a>) - DAKMARA GEORGESCU</b></p> <p><b>“What trends in education are among the “obvious” of today that will pave our way into the future? What challenges can curriculum designers anticipate in the future, and what new possibilities could we welcome? What is old and what is new?”</b></p> <p>An article that would fall into the category of “Great Food for Thought” as we kick off a new year in the context of The Future.</p>

# Blue Sky Leadership Retreats and Leadership Development – Practical Tools

	<p><b>Team Effectiveness Questionnaire (<a href="#">Click Here</a>)</b></p> <p><b>This tool looks at team effectiveness from eight perspectives Purpose and goals, roles, team processes, team relationships, intergroup relations, problem solving, passion and commitment, skills and learning.</b></p> <p>This is not the tool I use with teams, but one that can be effective as a conversation starter with your team. This could be a 30-minute part of your weekly leadership meeting. Reach out if you are interested in my tool. The 56 questions included is overwhelming but every week pull 3-4 as a discussion starter in your meetings.</p>
	<p><b>10 ways to Build an Effective Team: A Complete Guide (<a href="#">Click Here</a>) – Vantage Circle</b></p> <p><b>“Building an effective team is crucial for the success of any business, yet it can be challenging. It requires a combination of clear goals and objectives, strong leadership, open communication, diversity, trust, and respect among team members.”</b></p> <p>Lots of excellent considerations and specific steps, as well as some reflective questions to use with your team to monitor on-going progress</p>
	<p><b>Leadership Lessons: Reflections on the End of an Era (<a href="#">Click Here</a>) – Brent C. Kaneft</b></p> <p><b>“Moulton reminded me last year that without embedding wisdom into our systems, our systems will run amok. Wisdom is law, wisdom is restraint and patience, wisdom is what prevents us from pursuing narrow goals, wisdom is seeing the whole and not just the parts.”</b></p> <p>A wonderful article on the transition of leadership from a long-established Head of School to new leadership. Reflections on that transition and the lessons learned.</p>

## Blue Sky Finance

	<p><b>The Changing Face of Financial Aid (<a href="#">Click Here</a>) – Mark J. Mitchell</b></p> <p><b>“In the Enrollment Management Association’s 2020–2021 report, “The Ride to Independent Schools,” 58% of parents said “affordability” was their primary concern about private/independent schools. And while more than half (53%) of</b></p>
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	<p>parents applied for financial aid, 61% of those who said that affordability was a concern did not apply for financial aid because they thought they wouldn't qualify."</p> <p>A must-read analysis of who seeks financial aid, who receives it, and the sacrifices families make to send their kids to independent schools.</p>
	<p>Future-proof finance -- Strategic planning for long-term sustainability in the post-pandemic era <a href="#">(Click Here)</a> -- from the International Teacher Magazine</p> <p>"The strongest future schools will operate like businesses, with robust short-term operating plans and budgets, underpinning longer-term strategic objectives. They will be far-sighted and, while respecting heritage, will not be hidebound by the past; they will change their business models to reflect operating environments."</p> <p>European based and so a small part touches on government funding, but the rest of it is a nice checklist of areas that need to be priorities as you contemplate sustainability.</p>
	<p>The Golden Triangle of School Revenue Management - Why, and how, the advancement team, business office, and enrollment team should form a strong partnership <a href="#">(Click Here)</a></p> <p>"As the world around us continues to demand change from our educational institutions, the independent school of the future must rise to the challenge. Schools must think, act, and evolve strategically, and The Golden Triangle is a key collaboration that will help shift the thinking and ensure that schools thrive into the future."</p> <p>A great article on ensuring that there is a coordinated effort to understand and strategic financial goals across the organization. Get all players on the same page to ensure success in all of the group's goals.</p>

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