Blue Sky Thinkers

Blue Sky Employee Well-Being

☀	"Workplace Wellness Programs Have Little Benefit, Study Finds" – Ellen Barry – New York Times – Original article **(Click Here),** and original study **(Click Here).** This Report, covered by the New York Times … **"Workplace wellness offerings such as apps, coaching and courses in time management or financial well-being did not have any positive effect, according to the study, while resilience and stress management trainings seemed to have a negative effect"** The movement to wellness initiatives and programs within work environments need to be examined carefully moving forward to ensure they are achieving the desired results.

Blue Sky (Educational) Leadership in 2024

☀	The five topics independent school leaders were most curious about in the past year– **(Click Here)** – Kaitlin Hawkes for the EAB (Education Advisory Board) **"Now, we're sharing the five topics that were top of mind for independent school leaders over the past year"** The EAB shares its top five most popular research requests: 1. How to Effectively Manage People; 2. Enrolment and advancement; 3. Supporting Students; 4. School policies and management; 5. Academic programming
☀	Four Key Findings from the 2021 State of Independent School Leadership Study – **(Click Here)** NAIS – Margaret Ann Rowe **"NAIS again fielded the "State of Independent School Leadership Study" ... Six hundred and twenty-two heads of school and 635**

administrators of various positions responded to the two separate surveys that constituted the 2021 edition of the study."

The study is a rich treasure trove of content about school heads, changing demographics, challenges and the state of school leadership.

☀ "The importance of school leadership? What we know" (Click Here) School Leadership and Management – Editorial

"The central argument, in this article, is that educational leadership researchers, in focusing predominantly on how institutional heads and other formal 'leaders' may best 'do' leadership….The unit of analysis should shift, it is argued, from leadership to influence, within a new research agenda that replaces surface-level, causality-assumptive 'how?' and 'why?' questions that have shaped mainstream educational leadership research for over thirty years, with more fundamental 'who?' and 'what?' questions, aimed at identifying who is in fact doing the influencing. …which confronts the question: Does leadership exist, or is it a myth that we have reified?"

Results
(1) Effective School Leadership has a positive and lasting impact on organizational performance
(2) Effective school leadership has a positive impact on learning and learner outcomes
(3) Effective school Leadership is distributed widely and wisely
(4) Effective School Leaders build collaborative practices and foster enquiry
(5) Effective School Leaders are System Leaders

☀ Three articles from "LearnLoft" (www.learnloft.com). Lots of great resources here for leaders.

Why The Best Leaders Prioritize Struggling Team Members (Click Here)

How Great Leaders Unleash Change to Deliver Results (Click Here)

How To Master The Art Of Achieving Team Goals (Click Here)

Blue Sky Edutopia's the best of the best

☀ "THE RESEARCH IS IN: The 10 Most Significant Education Studies of 2023" (Click Here) for full article with commentary and supplementary links

Studies themselves. A few are behind a paywall, others you can read or download

- **AI MAY CUT AN EDUCATOR'S PLANNING TIME DRAMATICALLY**
  Click Here

- **A FASCINATING GUIDE TO BETTER QUIZZING**
  Click Here

- **HOW TONE OF VOICE CHANGES CLASSROOM CULTURE**
  Click Here

- **BRAINS THAT FIRE TOGETHER WIRE TOGETHER**
  Click Here

- **IN SUM, MATH PICTURE BOOKS WORK**
  Click Here

- **TO IMPROVE STUDENT WRITING, REDUCE FEEDBACK (AND PUT ONUS ON KIDS)**
  Click Here

- **A NEW THEORY ABOUT THE TEEN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS**
  Click Here

- **DIRECT INSTRUCTION AND INQUIRY-BASED LEARNING ARE COMPLEMENTARY**
  Click Here

- **A TRULY MASSIVE REVIEW FINDS VALUE IN SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING -- AGAIN**
  Click Here

- **MORE EVIDENCE FOR MOVING PAST "FINDING THE MAIN IDEA"**
  Click Here