

Leadership as capital Formation

an Educational Transformations Asia Pacific Research Project

Synopsis

The proposed project builds on Brian Caldwell's paper at the roundtable that describes a new framework for understanding leadership as capital formation. Drawing on preliminary findings from an earlier five-year research and development project, the framework was tested in the International Project to Frame the Transformation of Schools, the findings of which were published in late 2008. This project was conducted in Australia, China, England, Finland, United States and Wales. Leaders in schools that have been transformed or have sustained high levels of performance are adept at building intellectual, social, spiritual and financial capital. Indicators of each form of capital and of governance were developed. The framework complements others frameworks or models for understanding transformational leadership in schools.

Reports in the literature

Caldwell B.J. & Harris, J. (2008). *Why not the Best Schools*. Melbourne: ACER Press.

Harris, J., Zhao, Y. & Caldwell, B.J. (2009). 'Global characteristics of school transformation in China'. *Asia Pacific Journal of Education*. Vol. 29, Issue 4, December, pages 413-426.

Partnerships for further research

Educational Transformations in Australia seeks partnerships with organisations or institutions in two other countries in the Asia Pacific to conduct a three-country study to (1) review existing leadership frameworks in each of the three countries; (2) design and implement a study in each country, including case studies, to assess the utility of the framework developed in the International Project to Frame the Transformation of Schools; and (3) adapt and further develop the framework to ensure utility in each country. Each participating institution shall contribute one-third of the costs of conducting the study.

Educational Transformations

Educational Transformations Pty Ltd in Melbourne was established by Professor Brian Caldwell following his retirement as Dean of Education at the University of Melbourne, where he continues as an Honorary Professorial Fellow. The company undertakes a range of projects commissioned by state and commonwealth authorities and by non-profit entities. Occasional papers, monographs and books are published. Keynote presentations and workshops are conducted for professional associations in Australia and other countries. Projects are conducted annually for a limited number of schools and some work is carried out on a *pro bono* basis. In addition to Brian Caldwell, staff include Dr Jessica Harris, Senior consulting Researcher (Brisbane); Dr Tanya Vaughan, Senior Consulting Researcher (Melbourne); Fiona Longmuir,

Consulting Researcher (Melbourne); and Anna Kitney, Executive Assistant and Events Manager.

Further information

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