

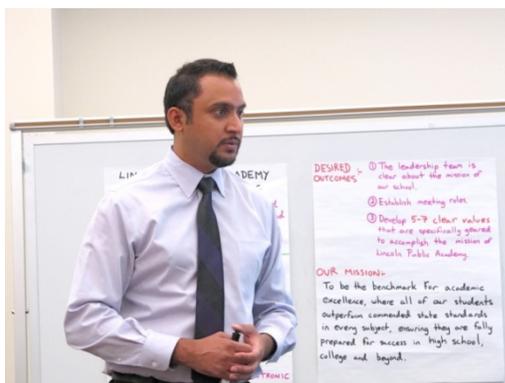
Mission

Preparing educators to lead the change we need for the academic success and equity of all students.

What this looks like in the words of our candidates...

*From the very beginning my goal in this program has been to discover how to develop and maintain an effort-based school that eradicates the assumption that a student's socioeconomic background or geographic location determines what and how much they can learn... When we first began class those twenty-two faces did not mean much to me, but now those same individuals are more than classmates. They are my friends, people who will stand by your side supporting you when you think no one has a clue...relationships are not manifested by happenstance, but rather fostered by creating a starting point where the willingness to trust is extended. **Derrick, DISD Candidate.***

*Through the incredible guest speakers from the SMU/Teaching Trust summer intensive, I have a greater sense of urgency... I have used the techniques learned this summer to create a culture in my classroom that every second counts and every person counts. **Brian, Uplift Candidate.***



*department. **Ali, DISD Candidate.***

*My biggest takeaway from the program thus far has been a refined lens through which I view my school leaders' actions - everything from interacting with parents to the agenda items included at our weekly staff meetings - every action either moves our school forward or backward, and I am getting much better at recognizing the difference. Not only have I gained a much clearer vision of what excellent school leadership can and should look like, but I have a much better understanding of the discrete actions school leaders can take to get there. **Lindyn, Uplift Candidate.***



ED-Entrepreneur Center

The EEC has shined the light on the things that can be done at a campus level ...that have the leverage to greatly impact student achievement...The summer intensive course displayed the importance of culture and high expectations through leadership that consistently trickle down through the staff and into the students. This was modeled through the intentional behaviors and expectations of the leadership. **Kiashon, DISD Candidate.**



The SMU/Teaching Trust summer intensive helped me develop an acute sense of self-awareness. Not only do I have a better sense of my blind spots and areas of growth, I have been provided with the tools to address them. For example...I have acquired concrete procedures and the language to... challenge a team practice that is not in the best interest of the student.” **Kelsey, Uplift Candidate.**

The four weeks I have spent learning this summer have truly been an amazing experience for me. I never imagined I could grow as much as I have...now I recognize work can be done on the front end to help bring trust into a group quickly. I never imagined that I could be more inspired to be a great educator. But... my heart is bubbling with the excitement of not just being a great educator, but being a great leader of great educators. **Lucilla, DISD Candidate.**

