



Janel O. Scurlock

Pinedale Elementary School
Pinedale, Wyoming



Trust: The first job of any leader is to inspire trust. Trust is confidence born of two dimensions: character and competence. Character includes your integrity, motive, and intent with people. Competence includes your capabilities, skills, results, and track record. Both dimensions are vital.

– Covey, 2009

Character: My life goal is to live and act with strong character, integrity, honesty, and optimism. I take risks. I keep commitments. I work to right my wrongs. I choose to be transparent with my thoughts, decisions, and actions. I speak clearly and without ambiguity. And, I work hard to stay positive when faced with adversity.

Competence: I believe in showing people what I can do. To prove my competence as a leader I stay current in my field through professional reading, attending webinars and conferences, and reaching out to other principals across the nation for advice and expertise. I self-evaluate often and seek feedback from my colleagues- both in person and anonymously so that I can continually improve my practice. Competence, however, is more than ability and skills. It requires results and a proven record of accomplishment. When I commit to a task, I follow through and provide results. That can be in the form of creating spreadsheets for data collection, to having regular lunch dates with struggling students, to talking with parents, to dealing with discipline, to being a liaison between our Hispanic families and our school. Whatever the task, I will follow through.