

How leaders build school cultures where *Failure Is Not an Option*[®]

- Close gaps within and between schools
- Engage your *entire* learning community
- Develop knowledge and ownership among teacher leaders
- Implement cohesive action around best practices
- Build leadership capacity that provides stability through leader transitions
- Create energized, collaborative teams focused on improving instruction





HOPE Foundation
Founder & President,
Alan Blankstein

The Story of HOPE

HOPE was founded in 1989 by a young man who was passionate about making a difference for children, especially the under-served, due to his own background as a high-risk youth. He was joined early on by youth advocate, Nancy Shin, now HOPE's Executive Director.

HOPE launched the Professional Learning Communities movement initially in the late 1980's, culminating in a series of *Shaping America's Future* forums and PBS productions involving W. Edwards Deming, Peter Senge, and virtually every major educational leader at that time. The founders then published the seminal works in this area including those by Richard DuFour, Robert Eaker, and Ron Warwick for 12 years before focusing full-time on the non-profit HOPE Foundation.



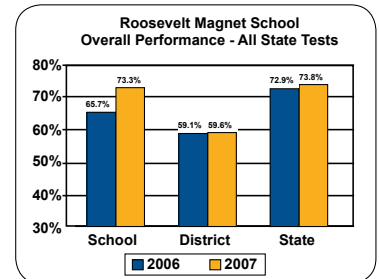
HOPE Foundation
Executive Director,
Nancy Shin

With the help of a world-class Board of Directors - including honorary chair, Archbishop Desmond Tutu - and an Advisory Board consisting of 60 leaders who have shaped public education for decades, HOPE has helped thousands of districts close gaps and sustain achievement so that failure is not an option for *any* student. The framework for school improvement is the National Staff Development Council's "Book of the Year," *Failure Is Not an Option®: Six Principles That Guide Student Achievement in High-Performing Schools*, authored by Alan Blankstein. For the better part of a decade, schools and districts of HOPE have successfully built and sustained success, defined by student achievement and engagement data. Below are two examples of how schools of HOPE are succeeding. For more examples, see www.hopefoundation.org.

Results

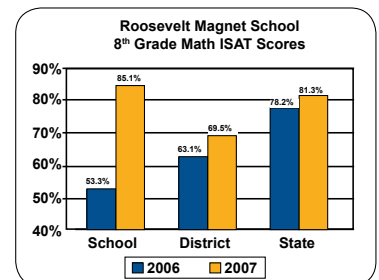
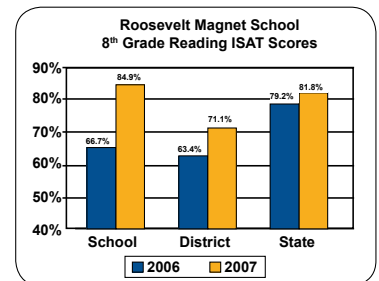
Roosevelt Magnet School (Peoria, IL)

- In addition to making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in 2007, students at Roosevelt Magnet School out performed the district on all state tests, nearly matching the state's overall performance. The school has seen a 23% increase in students meeting or exceeding the Illinois Learning Standards on all state tests from 2004 to 2007.



Wichita Public Schools (Wichita, KS)

- Wichita met 36 of 42 AYP subgroup targets, narrowed the achievement gap between Caucasian and African-American students, and exceeded the state's graduation target.
- The district met AYP for all students in reading and math, along with goals in participation, attendance, and graduation. In addition, in 2007 15 schools in the district achieved AYP that did not in 2006, 12 of which participated in the HOPE Foundation's *Courageous Leadership Academy*.



"What our teachers and students are doing is remarkable, I don't think you can find many urban districts across the country that are making the kind of gains that we are achieving."

Winston Brooks
Superintendent
Wichita Public Schools
Wichita, KS

1. Getting Started

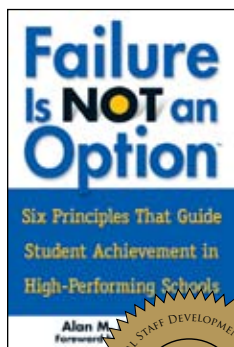
The **Failure Is Not an Option®** book, **Facilitator's Guide**, **videos**, and the **Soul of Educational Leadership series of books** are research-based and field-tested resources that describe state-of-the-art practices in our field.

2 ½-Day Summits provide an excellent professional development venue for motivating your team to adopt the *Failure Is Not an Option®* attitude. Your team will not only hear the best speakers in the country, but also connect their research to the needs of your school or district using the Six Principles.

"With the knowledge we have gained from each conference [we attended], we have spent the past 3 years developing, piloting, and implementing a Freshman Success Program... We had an 82% promotion rate for first-time freshmen at our school!!"

Ted Daughtry, Principal
Grandby High School
Norfolk, VA

Getting Started: Print Resources



Failure Is Not an Option®:
Six Principles That Guide Student Achievement in High-Performing Schools

Written by: Alan M. Blankstein, with Andy Hargreaves and Dean Fink; Foreword by Michael Fullan

Drawing on 15 years of practical research, and an in-depth look at 20 high-performing schools and districts, this book identifies the 6 principles that guide sustainable professional learning communities. Most importantly, readers will find a detailed set of field-tested processes for recreating these successes in their own schools.

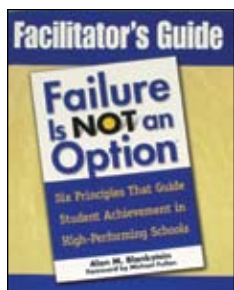


"Failure Is Not an Option® addresses all the elements that are absolutely necessary for effective and enduring educational reform. It is a deeply passionate call to arms, combined with the wherewithal to take systematic, continuous, and effective action."

From the Foreword by Michael Fullan

US \$32.95

US \$27.00 each for 25 or more copies



Facilitator's Guide to Failure Is Not an Option®

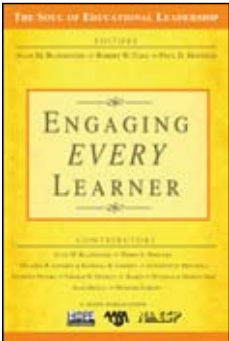
Designed around Alan M. Blankstein's award-winning best-seller, this *Facilitator's Guide to Failure Is Not an Option®* gives staff developers and workshop leaders the tools to facilitate book study groups, seminars, and professional development events to help school leaders in creating successful and sustainable high-performing schools.

Aligning theory with practice, chapter-by-chapter activities and discussion questions examine the critical role of a strong learning community in implementing effective school reform.

US \$16.95



1 Getting Started: Print Resources

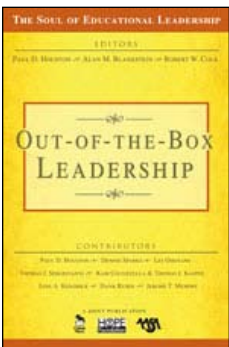


The Soul of Educational Leadership: Engaging Every Learner (Volume 1 of 8)

Contributors: Alan Blankstein, Pedro Noguera, Stephen Peters, Alan Boyle, Thomas Guskey, Antoinette Mitchell, and others

Pioneering educators and series editors offer thought-provoking ideas that are applicable to all schools, districts, and learning communities. Join today’s most insightful thinkers as they explore the heart, mind, and soul of educational leadership! This concise volume offers educational leaders key concepts and strategies for framing discussions about closing the equity gap and ensuring high achievement for all learners.

US \$29.95

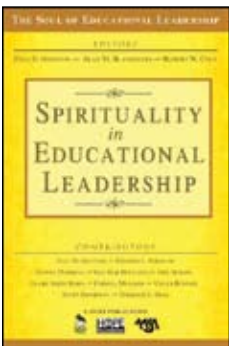


The Soul of Educational Leadership: Out-of-the-Box Leadership (Volume 2 of 8)

Contributors: Paul Houston, Dennis Sparks, Thomas Sergiovanni, Kari Cocozzella, Thomas Kasper, Hank Rubin, and others

In this second volume of *The Soul of Educational Leadership* series, editors Paul D. Houston, Alan M. Blankstein, and Robert W. Cole offer creative perspectives on the challenges of reframing leadership practice. Presenting key strategies from leadership experts such as Thomas Sergiovanni and Dennis Sparks, this compact resource combines research, reflective exercises, and day-to-day school leadership procedures for motivating students and providing meaningful cultural change in school communities.

US \$29.95

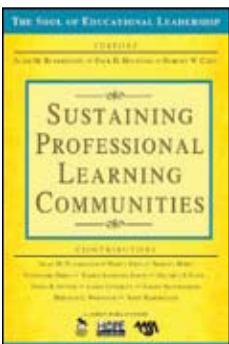


The Soul of Educational Leadership: Spirituality in Educational Leadership (Volume 3 of 8)

Contributors: Terry Deal, Dawna Markova, Scott Thompson, Paul Houston, and others

The third book in a series on *The Soul of Educational Leadership*, this resource offers key ideas and strategies for identifying the spiritual, moral, and ethical dimensions of school leadership practice. With contributions from top leadership figures, *Spirituality in Educational Leadership* combines research and thought-provoking ideas for practice.

US \$29.95



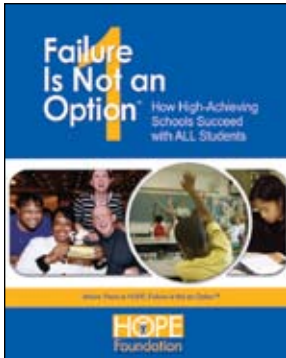
The Soul of Educational Leadership: Sustaining Professional Learning Communities (Volume 4 of 8)

Contributors: Shirley Hord, Maurice Elias, Karen Seashore Louis, Andy Hargreaves, Stephanie Hirsh, and others

Professional learning communities have become a significant factor in improving instructional effectiveness and student achievement. In the fourth volume of *The Soul of Educational Leadership* series, educators and leaders will discover key concepts and strategies for sustaining the critically important work of these communities.

US \$29.95

1 Getting Started: Video Resources

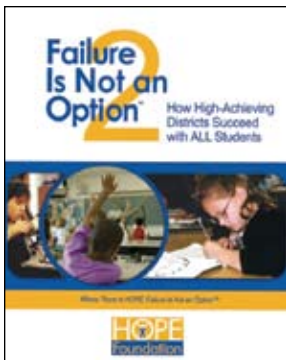


Failure Is Not an Option® 1: How High-Achieving Schools Succeed with ALL Students

Featuring: Michael Fullan, Richard DuFour, Barbara Eason-Watkins, Mike Schmoker, Deborah Wortham, Jay McTighe, and others

This highly acclaimed six-part video or two DVD set provides a complete kit for understanding and creating high-performing schools where students are not able to fall through the cracks. Six award-winning K-12 schools in rural, suburban, and urban settings demonstrate how the six *Failure Is Not an Option®* principles work to transform low-performing schools. A flexible facilitator's guide enables you to step your school through the process.

US \$790 (regularly US \$890; available on VHS and DVD)

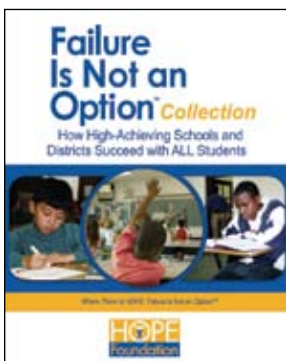


Failure Is Not an Option® 2: How High-Achieving Districts Succeed with ALL Students

Featuring: Michael Fullan, Pedro Noguera, Kati Haycock, Richard Elmore, and others

This series demonstrates how schools across the K-12 spectrum successfully close the achievement gap between all subgroups, sustain student success, use collaborative teaming, and develop leadership capacity at all levels. The series captures the day-to-day practices, structures, and strategies used by five different award-winning schools. Together, the schools represent a range of students from various cultures and socioeconomic conditions. This series is available in a three VHS set or in one DVD.

US \$395 (regularly US \$495; available on VHS and DVD)



Failure Is Not an Option® Collection: How High-Achieving Schools and Districts Succeed with ALL Students

Featuring: Michael Fullan, Richard DuFour, Barbara Eason-Watkins, Mike Schmoker, Deborah Wortham, Jay McTighe, Pedro Noguera, Richard Elmore, and others

This three DVD set is the complete *Failure Is Not an Option®* guide to sustainable student success, including all of the resources found in the *Failure Is Not an Option® 1* and *2* video series. It features frameworks and strategies articulated by the leading authorities on school reform.

US \$990 (regularly US \$1,185; available on DVD only)

"This video should be used as an instructional tool for schools interested in identifying and defining barriers to success and enabling processes to develop that will lead to school improvement."

Mark Lynskey, Ohio Department of Education
Columbus, OH

"I am delighted with this series and recommend it wholeheartedly... The series contributed to the development of our action plans for school improvement."

Cindy Bechinski, Ph.D.
Curriculum and Title 1 Director
Moscow School District
Moscow, ID

1 Getting Started: Summits



Failure Is Not an Option® Summit Troy, MI • April 23-25, 2008

Topics Include:

- Grading and Reporting Student Learning (Pre-Summit Presentation with Tom Guskey)
- Using Standards and Assessment to Report Student Learning with Tom Guskey
- *Failure Is Not an Option*®: Creating High-Performing School Cultures with Alan Blankstein
- I Have Data, Now What! with Chris Himself
- Turn Up the D.I.A.L. on State Achievement Tests! with Scott Taylor
- Building Successful Partnerships: The Road to Student Success with Dee Jones
- We're All In This Together: A Journey of Professional Learning with Tamara Bashore Berg and Nancy Fahner
- Creating a Culture of Success through Collaboration with Deborah Wortham

Hotel & Location Information: The Somerset Inn, 2601 West Big Beaver Road, Troy, MI 48084; Reservations: 248-643-7800; Rate is \$119.00-\$139.00 per night for single/double occupancy plus 13.3% tax; The cut-off date is Tuesday, April 1, 2008.

Summit: US \$415 per person (team & pre-pay discounts are available)

Pre-Summit with Tom Guskey: US \$118 per person

FEATURING PRESENTATIONS BY:

TOM GUSKEY

Two-time NSDC "Book of the Year Award" winner; Author of *Benjamin S. Bloom*

ALAN BLANKSTEIN

Author of *Failure Is Not an Option*®

DEBORAH WORTHAM

Award-winning Administrator of Baltimore City Public Schools

CHRIS HIMSEL

Executive Director of Indiana ASCD

SCOTT TAYLOR

Former St. Louis Distinguished Principal of the Year

DEE JONES

President of the Indiana PTA

TAMARA BASHORE BERG & NANCY FAHNER

School Improvement Consultants, Ingham Intermediate School (MI)

PEG GRAFFWALLNER

At-Risk Educator, Wauwatosa West High School (WI)

Speakers subject to change



Failure Is Not an Option® Summit Indianapolis, IN • August 20-22, 2008

Topics Include:

- Grading and Reporting Student Learning (Pre-Summit Presentation with Tom Guskey)
- Using Standards and Assessment to Report Student Learning with Tom Guskey
- *Failure Is Not an Option*®: Creating High-Performing School Cultures with Alan Blankstein
- I Have Data, Now What! with Chris Himself
- Building Successful Partnerships: The Road to Student Success with Dee Jones
- What Great Teachers Do Differently: 14 Things That Matter Most with Todd Whitaker

Hotel & Location Information: Not available at this time

Summit: US \$415 per person (team, early registration & pre-pay discounts are available)

Pre-Summit with Tom Guskey: US \$118 per person

FEATURING PRESENTATIONS BY:

TOM GUSKEY

Two-time NSDC "Book of the Year Award" winner; Author of *Benjamin S. Bloom*

TODD WHITAKER

Author of *What Great Teachers Do Differently*

ALAN BLANKSTEIN

Author of *Failure Is Not an Option*®

DEE JONES

President of the Indiana PTA

CHRIS HIMSEL

Executive Director of Indiana ASCD

Additional Speakers to be announced
Speakers are subject to change

1 Getting Started: Summits



Failure Is Not an Option® Summit
Chicago, IL • October 22-24, 2008

Topics Include:

- The Power of an Educator with Larry Bell
- *Failure Is Not an Option*®: Creating High-Performing School Cultures with Alan Blankstein
- Investing in New Teacher Development with Ellen Moir
- Capture, Inspire, Teach: Teaching Strategies for Today's Students with Stephen Peters

Hotel & Location Information: Not available at this time

Summit: US \$415 per person (early registration, team & pre-pay discounts are available)

Pre-Summit with Larry Bell: US \$118 per person

FEATURING PRESENTATIONS BY:

LARRY BELL

Former Supervisor of Multicultural Education for Prince William County, Virginia

ALAN BLANKSTEIN

Author of *Failure Is Not an Option*®

ELLEN MOIR

Founder and Executive Director of the New Teacher Center at UC - Santa Cruz

STEPHEN PETERS

Author of *Do You Know Enough About Me To Teach Me?*

Speakers subject to change



2. Going Deeper

3 or 3 ½-Day Institutes go deeper by providing the structure, processes, and time for teams to build common understandings of how to apply the information from renowned presenters to your school context and commit to next step actions for advancing these back home. The Six Principles provide a simple framework for increasing coherence and connections between efforts.

3 ½-Day Advanced Institutes are for teams that have already immersed themselves in the work and are looking for a process-driven approach to deepen their understanding of how to create high-performing school cultures. These events are a good venue to further explore sustainability for those who are already using learning community concepts. Our design integrates structured processing with outstanding keynote presentations in order to build teams and a solid plan for action.

"The leadership and collaboration skills have already begun to change our culture dramatically. We have gone from being a number of individuals to acting as a team or even a family. We have developed an atmosphere of professional trust, and shifted our focus to achievement for ALL students."

Shari Harrison, Proficiency Coord.
Edison Middle School
Milwaukee, WI



2 Going Deeper: Institutes



Failure Is Not an Option® Institute Dallas, TX • March 25-28, 2008

Topics Include:

- *Failure Is Not an Option*®: Creating High-Performing School Cultures with Alan Blankstein
- Capture, Inspire, Teach: Teaching Strategies for Today's Students with Stephen Peters
- Assisting the Struggling Learner with Willard Daggett
- Positive Relations: The Key to Effective Discipline with Mark Boynton

Mark Boynton

- A Prevention Based Approach to Discipline with Mark Boynton
- Creating High Performing Schools Where Success is the ONLY Option with Hector Montenegro
- "Rules and Tools" for Ensuring the Success of At-Risk Students with Jim Davis
- What Teachers are Telling Us: The Principal's Role in Teacher Leadership Development with Bob Morrison
- *Failure Is Not an Option*®: Six Principles Working as a System to Support Student Achievement with Jan Nobuto
- Creating Mathematical Learning Communities Among Teachers with Jeff Farmer
- Dealing with Resistance Through Understanding Change with Jan Nobuto

Location Information: Arlington Independent School District Professional Development Center, 1111 W. Arbrook Blvd., Arlington, TX 76015

US \$685 per person (team & pre-pay discounts are available)

FEATURING PRESENTATIONS BY:

WILLARD DAGGETT

President of the International Center for Leadership in Education

ALAN BLANKSTEIN

Author of *Failure Is Not an Option*®

STEPHEN PETERS

Author of *Do You Know Enough About Me To Teach Me?*

MARK BOYNTON

Co-author of *The Educators Guide to Preventing and Solving Discipline Problems*

HECTOR MONTENEGRO

Superintendent of Schools, Arlington ISD, Arlington, Texas

JEFF FARMER

Professor Emeritus, University of Northern Colorado

JAN NOBUTO

2005 NSDC Shirley Havens Support and Classified Staff Development Award winner

JIM DAVIS

Sr. Director of Special Schools and Services for Harris County Department of Education

BOB MORRISON

Deputy Superintendent of Mansfield Independent School District

Speakers subject to change



Failure Is Not an Option® Institute Anaheim, CA • June 10-13, 2008

Topics Include:

- *Failure Is Not an Option*®: Creating High-Performing School Cultures with Alan Blankstein
- Three Critical Interventions for District and School Improvement with Bob Marzano
- A New Area of School Improvement: Three Commitments to Students with Debra Pickering
- Becoming Critical Researchers: Literacy and Empowerment for Urban Youth with Ernest Morrell

Location Information: Not available at this time

US \$685 per person (early registration, team & pre-pay discounts are available)

FEATURING PRESENTATIONS BY:

ROBERT MARZANO

Senior scholar at Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning and author of *Art and Science of Teaching: A Model for Effective Instruction*

DEBRA PICKERING

Former classroom teacher, building leader, and district staff development director and co-author of *Classroom Management That Works*

ALAN BLANKSTEIN

Author of *Failure Is Not an Option*®

ERNEST MORRELL

Assistant Professor in the Graduate School of Education and Information Studies at University of California - Los Angeles

Speakers subject to change
Additional speakers to be added

2 Going Deeper: Institutes



Failure Is Not an Option® Institute
Myrtle Beach, SC • July 8-10, 2008

Topics Include:

- Differentiating Instruction: What, Why and How with Carol Ann Tomlinson
- Data Driven Decision Making with Doug Reeves
- *Failure Is Not an Option*®: Creating High-Performing School Cultures with Alan Blankstein
- Capture, Inspire, and Teach: Teaching Strategies for Today's Students with Stephen Peters
- Creating High Performing Schools Where Success is the ONLY Option with Hector Montenegro

Location Information: Not available at this time

US \$685 per person (early registration, team & pre-pay discounts are available)

FEATURING PRESENTATIONS BY:

CAROL ANN TOMLINSON

Co-author of *Differentiated Instruction and Understanding by Design*

DOUG REEVES

Chairman and Founder of the Center for Performance Assessment

ALAN BLANKSTEIN

Author of *Failure Is Not an Option*®

STEPHEN PETERS

Author of *Do You Know Enough About Me To Teach Me?*

CLETE BULACH

Associate Professor Emeritus at the University of West Georgia

HECTOR MONTENEGRO

Superintendent of Schools, Arlington ISD in Arlington, Texas

Speakers subject to change
Additional speakers to be added



Failure Is Not an Option® Institute
San Francisco, CA • October 14-17, 2008

Topics Include:

- Powerful Teacher Education with Linda Darling-Hammond
- *Failure Is Not an Option*®: Creating High-Performing School Cultures with Alan Blankstein
- Capture, Inspire, Teach: Teaching Strategies for Today's Students with Stephen Peters
- Building Leadership Capacity Through Partnership with Jan Robertson

Location Information: Not available at this time

US \$685 per person (early registration, team & pre-pay discounts are available)

FEATURING PRESENTATIONS BY:

LINDA DARLING-HAMMOND

President of the International Center for Leadership in Education

ALAN BLANKSTEIN

Author of *Failure Is Not an Option*®

STEPHEN PETERS

Author of *Do You Know Enough About Me To Teach Me?*

JAN ROBERTSON

Director of the London Centre for Leadership in Learning at the Institute of Education, London University

Speakers subject to change
Additional speakers to be added

2 Going Deeper: Institutes



Failure Is Not an Option[®] Institute Denver, CO • November 11-14, 2008

Topics Include:

- Turnaround Schools/Turnaround Systems with Michael Fullan
- Three Critical Interventions for District and School Improvement with Bob Marzano
- *Failure Is Not an Option*[®]: Creating High-Performing School Cultures with Alan Blankstein
- Collaborative Teaming Focused on Teaching and Learning with Albert Bertani
- Powerful Coaching for Leaders with Karla Reiss

Location Information: Not available at this time

US \$685 per person (early registration, team & pre-pay discounts are available)

FEATURING PRESENTATIONS BY:

MICHAEL FULLAN

Author of the *What's Worth Fighting For* series

ROBERT MARZANO

Author of *Art and Science of Teaching*

ALAN BLANKSTEIN

Author of *Failure Is Not an Option*[®]

ALBERT BERTANI

Former Chief Officer for Professional Development with the Chicago Public Schools

KARLA REISS

2007 NSDC Staff Development Book of the Year Award Winner

Speakers subject to change
Additional speakers to be added



Failure Is Not an Option[®] Institute Austin, TX • November 19-21, 2008

Topics Include:

- *Failure Is Not an Option*[®]: Creating High-Performing School Cultures with Alan Blankstein
- Capture, Inspire, Teach: Teaching Strategies for Today's Students with Stephen Peters

Location Information: Not available at this time

US \$685 per person (early registration, team & pre-pay discounts are available)

FEATURING PRESENTATIONS BY:

ALAN BLANKSTEIN

Author of *Failure Is Not an Option*[®]

STEPHEN PETERS

Author of *Do You Know Enough About Me To Teach Me?*

Speakers subject to change
Additional speakers to be added



Failure Is Not an Option[®] Institute Savannah, GA • December 9-12, 2008

Topics Include:

- Essential Questions: A Doorway to Understanding with Jay McTighe
- The Planning for School and Student Success Process with Wayne Hulley
- *Failure Is Not an Option*[®]: Creating High-Performing School Cultures with Alan Blankstein
- Capture, Inspire, Teach: Teaching Strategies for Today's Students with Stephen Peters

Location Information: Not available at this time

US \$685 per person (early registration, team & pre-pay discounts are available)

FEATURING PRESENTATIONS BY:

JAY MCTIGHE

Author of *Understanding by Design*

WAYNE HULLEY

President of Canadian Effective Schools and the North Star Centre for Personal and Organizational Effectiveness in Ontario

ALAN BLANKSTEIN

Author of *Failure Is Not an Option*[®]

STEPHEN PETERS

Author of *Do You Know Enough About Me To Teach Me?*

Speakers subject to change
Additional speakers to be added

2 Going Deeper: Advanced Institutes



Failure Is Not an Option® Advanced Institute
Arizona • January, 2009

Topics Include:

- *Failure Is Not an Option*®: Creating High-Performing School Cultures with Alan Blankstein
- Capture, Inspire, Teach: Teaching Strategies for Today's Students with Stephen Peters

Location Information: Not available at this time

US \$685 per person (early registration, team & pre-pay discounts are available)

FEATURING PRESENTATIONS BY:

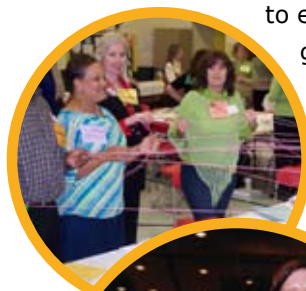
ALAN BLANKSTEIN
Author of *Failure Is Not an Option*®

STEPHEN PETERS
Author of *Do You Know Enough About Me To Teach Me?*

Speakers subject to change
Additional speakers to be added

3. Fully Engaging

Two-Day Work Sessions at your site help create buy-in for *Failure Is Not an Option*® among your whole staff by taking the initial steps in organizing your current efforts around the Six Principles framework. Sessions include exercises to engage your staff in clarifying purpose, roles, and processes for achieving your school improvement goals.



The **Courageous Leadership Network** (CLN) brings together building and district leaders over a one-year period for intensive coaching and development. Applications to participate in the 2008-2009 cohort are currently being accepted (5 leaders per district).



The **Courageous Leadership Academy** (CLA) builds consistency within and between schools by creating a "Professional Learning Community of HOPE" among leadership teams that relentlessly examine and improve instructional practices in a truly collaborative culture. The CLA uses best practice professional development standards, honoring what teachers already know, and embedding new learning into daily practice. Group sessions model activities for teams to practice and then implement in their own building.

For a free consultation on how your district can use this approach to close achievement gaps within and between schools, call 1-800-627-0232.