Q/A on Leadership Development Programs

Q. May the school district grant certification in Educational Leadership (Level I)?
A. No. Not at this time. Educational Leadership is typically a university degree program.

Q. How, then, may I add Educational Leadership (Level I) to my certificate?
A. Enroll in university courses and complete their program of study.

Q. May the district give me Educational Leadership (Level I) if I hold a master’s in degree in another field?
A. No, not at this time.

Q. Does that mean that at some time in the future the district may be able to offer Educational Leadership?
A. We have submitted a ‘modified’ Level I plan to the FL DOE. Until we hear back in the affirmative, we will not be able to offer the Educational Leadership program.

Q. May the school district grant certification in School Principal (Level II)?
A. Yes. We have submitted a plan for Level II.

Q. If I already have Educational Leadership on my certificate, may I enter the district’s program for School Principal (Level II) certification?
A. Yes, if you are a school-based leader.

Q. How do I get started?
A. Contact Dr. Diane Kelley in the office of Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction (833-5877 or kelleyd@mail.okaloosa.k12.fl.us).

Q. May I participate in the district’s School Principal (Level II) certification program if I hold a master’s degree in another field?
A. No. These programs are intended to be progressive. The intention is that they be in order. An individual must first complete a Level I program before entering into a Level II program.

Q. If I am a school-based assistant principal, must I have certification in Educational Leadership?
A. Yes. Florida state statute _________ stipulates that APs are members of the instructional staff, and as such, must hold certificate/s in the area/s in which they serve.

Q. If I am a school principal, must I have certification in School Principal?
A. It is recommended, but not necessary, for school principals to hold School Principal certification, due to Florida’s statute ________, which doesn’t categorize principals as members of the instructional staff. The Superintendent and School Board have the authority to place school principals who do not have these credentials. However, the
typical progression would be from Level I (Educational Leadership for APs) to Level II (School Principal).

Q. May I participate in the district’s program for Level I (Educational Leadership), if approved for the district, if I hold a district position rather than a full-time school-based administrative position?
A. No, the program is intended for school-based leaders. Many of the activities are designed to be carried out on a day-to-day basis with teachers and/or students in a school setting.

Q. May I participate in the district’s program for Level II (School Principal), if approved for the district, if I hold a district position rather than a full-time school-based administrative position and I already have Educational Leadership?
A. No, the program is intended for school-based leaders. Many of the activities are designed to be carried out on a day-to-day basis with teachers and/or students in a school setting.