

Reflective Journal 2

By Deirdre Wilson-Redmond

EDLP 6060-60      The Principalship

Professor Reid

Due July 11, 2017

On Monday, Professor Reid provided us with the wonderful opportunity to hear a myriad of administrative experiences through the testimonies of four New Jersey –based educational leaders. It was quite interesting to hear their points-of-view on subjects like time-management and district-influence on the job. There were strains of similarity between all of the presenters, but also there were distinctive differences among the quadrumvirate.

Dr. Tamika DePass, Principal of Bergen Boulevard and Shaler Academy presented an interesting path to becoming a principal. I was fascinated at the diversity of her background, especially her original desire to pursue a law degree.

Mr. Domenico Carriero, Principal of School 9 (Charles J. Riley School) is representative of the homegrown fruit of Paterson giving back. He sounds like he is committed to see his hometown school system progress in a noticeable way.

Dr. Fran Schlenoff, Principal of Briarcliff Middle School, Mountain Lakes, NJ represented as an honest and transparent leader. She shared her past experiences with candor. I would like to shadow her since her focus is the middle school arena (my area of instructional expertise).

Ms. Sonia Torres, principal of Teaneck Charter School reminded me the most of me. She spoke of her own early perceived immaturity and then revealed her meteoric, timely, almost predestined rise to her current leadership position. She appeared very introspective and her ultimate focus, as she expressed it, was to “be with the children.” Her stories of communication skills with children and adults alike seemed to be an integral thread of her success. I would also like to shadow her, especially since she works in the town where I live – Teaneck, NJ.

All-in-all anytime we can see the “real thing” modeled and on display, that is BEST learning experience, short of doing it yourself.