



THE AASA
LEADERSHIP
NETWORK

Get NETWORK Strong.



The AASA Leadership Network drives superintendent success, innovation and growth, shaping the future of public education while preparing students for what's next. We are the largest, most diverse network of superintendents in America. Passionate and committed, we connect educational leaders to the professional learning, leadership development, relationships and partnerships they need to ensure a long career of impact.



I was a superintendent of schools for 25 years in five districts, and I loved almost every minute. As I reflect on when our efforts were most successful, it is clear that colleagues made the difference. It's also clear that learned and practiced skills were essential, and that service to and a belief in all children sustained me.

Now that I have the honor to serve leaders across the country, those reflections have become guideposts to the work, mission and vision of the newly named **AASA Leadership Network**. We are equipping and empowering people like you to make an impact for your own career, for your district and for the global community of educators who are innovating and breaking new ground in the way students learn and prepare for life. In doing so, we have become the largest, most diverse network of superintendents in the country, providing a rare and precious gathering place for people, ideas and dialogue while offering unmatched space for critical friendships and real-time problem solving when you need it most.

In fact, and in practice, we are consistently working to make connections among leaders, and we are absolutely committed to ongoing updating, fine-tuning, unlearning, relearning and researching what's needed to be an effective leader. This sourcebook gives voice to a framework wherein we do just that. Use it — and our website, **AASA.org/LeadershipNetwork** — as a map to navigate the countless opportunities for preparing, certifying, learning and collaborating with us and with your colleagues. Leverage it as you mature into and through your career, engaging with our Lifecycle on the next page.



The Lifecycle offers entry points throughout your career, whether it's just beginning or whether you're seeking ways for an ongoing exchange of wisdom in "retirement." Excelsior!

Mort Sherman
Associate Executive Director

The AASA Leadership Network Engagement Lifecycle

AASA's Leadership Network Engagement Lifecycle serves superintendents and other district leaders as they **PREPARE, CERTIFY, LEARN, INNOVATE and COLLABORATE**. The Leadership Network fuels superintendent impact at individual, district and global education levels across five key entry points. Members can tap services as they Prepare for leadership, as they earn Certification, as they Learn and grow in content and interest areas, as they Innovate in their districts, and as they Collaborate with knowledgeable, experienced peers.

The Leadership Network is designed to equip district leaders, aspiring superintendents and superintendents throughout their leadership lifecycle by offering outlets for driving innovation, publishing, thought leadership, research and collaboration.



1. JOIN

AASA membership is foundational to accessing the services of the Leadership Network. Membership can be obtained by visiting **AASA.org/join.aspx** or bundled with services you choose.

For in-depth information on each aspect of the Network, visit **AASA.org/LeadershipNetwork**

3. CERTIFY

AASA offers the only superintendent certification program backed by the nation's largest, most diverse network of superintendents. **CERTIFY** candidates are mentored by experienced superintendents. **CERTIFY** graduates go on to engage in professional learning consortia tied to **LEARN** and **INNOVATE**.

4. LEARN

The Leadership Network offers targeted collaborative and professional learning opportunities that deepen mindshare attuned to interest areas and discreet contexts. Colleagues share challenges and problems of practice, experiences and strategies. **LEARN** programs spark **INNOVATE** initiatives, intense sessions to **COLLABORATE**, and even research and publishing opportunities for members.

5. INNOVATE

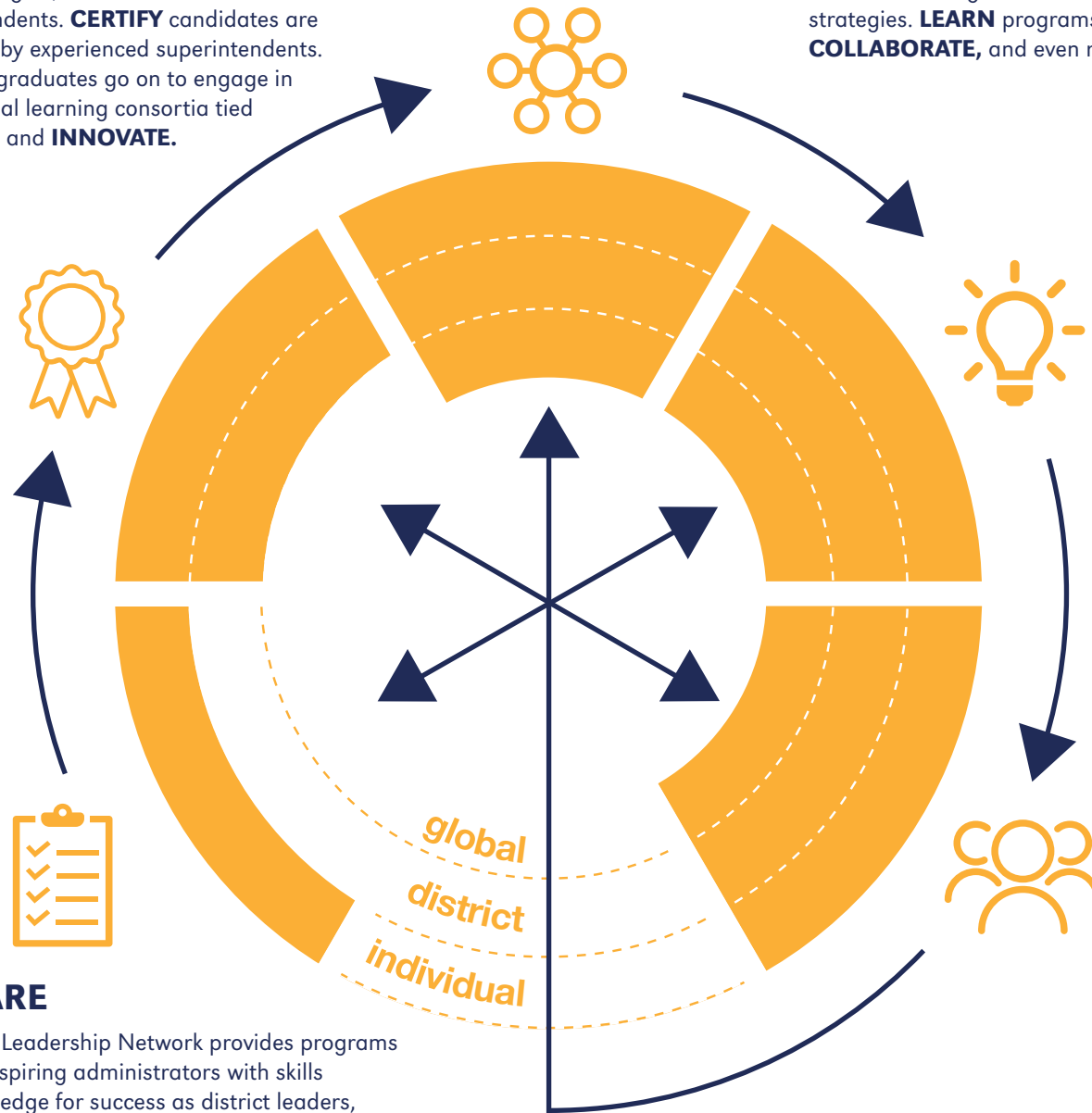
AASA's **INNOVATE** programs facilitate active engagement in key areas of interest that address challenges in districts. Members identify ways to scale and sustain innovation in their schools as they apply theories and methods in their districts. **INNOVATE** members often become thought leaders in these interest areas, leading to publishing opportunities in **COLLABORATE**.

6. COLLABORATE

The Leadership Network serves as a gateway to partnerships with superintendents, school districts, government organizations, institutions of higher education and business partners, which are designed to meet critical needs, drive change and innovation, produce action research, and improve outcomes for students.

2. PREPARE

The AASA Leadership Network provides programs to equip aspiring administrators with skills and knowledge for success as district leaders, tapping experienced educators as mentors and critical friends. **PREPARE** serves as a gateway to programs in **CERTIFY**, **LEARN** and **INNOVATE**.



The AASA Leadership Network serves as a personalized professional learning continuum to meet superintendents at their point of need with job-embedded programs throughout their careers. AASA provides real-world certification, in-depth professional learning in key interest areas, critical friendships and mentors, research, resources, and leading-edge methodologies and technologies. The vast array of Network services support members as they grow and evolve as leaders. As superintendents and district leaders, AASA members engaged in the Leadership Network directly reach their own students while also guiding the trajectory of public schooling.



1. JOIN

AASA membership is a foundational benefit for all AASA Leadership Network members. AASA can either be joined directly prior to Engagement Lifecycle participation or be bundled with the cost of a leader's initial program registration. For more information on membership, visit AASA.org/join.aspx.

2. PREPARE

IMPACT: Individual

PREPARE offers foundational programs to equip aspiring administrators actively pursuing their first post as a superintendent or other district leader.

PROGRAMS

- Aspiring Superintendents Academy®
- Collaborative Regional Aspiring Superintendents Academies
- National Aspiring Principal Academy





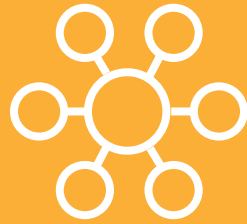
3. CERTIFY

IMPACT: Individual, District
AASA's Leadership Network

CERTIFY program represents the nation's only on-the-job preparation for early career chief executives backed by the nation's largest, most diverse network of superintendents.

PROGRAMS

- National Superintendent Certification Program®
- Urban Superintendents Academy



4. LEARN

IMPACT: Individual, District, Global

The Leadership Network represents a large array of targeted collaborative and professional learning opportunities to deepen mindshare attuned to the discreet contexts and challenges that superintendents face.

PROGRAMS

- Women's Leadership Collaborative
- National Women's Leadership Consortium
- Women in School Leadership
- National Principal Supervisor Academy
- Leadership Academy
- Social and Emotional Learning Cohort



5. INNOVATE

IMPACT: Individual, District, Global

AASA's Leadership Network facilitates programs that actively innovate in public school classrooms in ways that make a direct impact on districts. Collectively, **INNOVATE** programs drive improvement in public education overall by combining promising practices with proven strategies and by gathering like-minded superintendents and other district leaders to examine problems of practice together.

PROGRAMS

- Redefining Ready!
- Early Learning Cohort
- STEM Leadership Consortia
- Digital Learning Consortium
- Personalized Learning Cohort
- Collaborative Innovative Networks



6. COLLABORATE

IMPACT: Individual, District Global

AASA's Leadership Network proactively partners with experienced and knowledgeable superintendents to become mentors for district leaders throughout their leadership journey. **COLLABORATE** programs work with superintendents, district leaders, government organizations and institutions of higher education to develop custom initiatives to meet critical needs, drive change and innovation, produce published research, and better meet student needs.

PROGRAMS

- Become a Mentor
- Develop a Custom Initiative
- Partnership
- Mentorship

LEADERS MATTER NETWORKS MATTER GET #NETWORKSTRONG



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