

Dr. Kenneth O. Turner Jr., Ed.S., Ed.D.

An administrator, lecturer, professor, and consultant was born and raised in the Rondo community of St. Paul, MN. Majored in K-12 education and minored in Psychology at Concordia University in St. Paul, MN. Kenneth also received his Master's of Education at St. Mary's University as well as his Doctorate of Education (Ed.D.) in Educational Leadership and Administration at Minnesota State University, Mankato. As an Assistant Principal with Saint Paul Public Schools, Kenneth is responsible for:

Strategic Leadership

- Implement initiatives that support school improvement plan goals and the district's strategic plan as directed by the principal; empower and motivate other staff to proceed with initiatives.
- Identify areas of improvement and recommend solutions to principal; recommend ideas and solutions that align with building and district strategic planning.

Instructional & Learning Leadership

- Assist the principal with implementing best teaching practices in support of student achievement; visit classroom regularly and provide feedback to teachers; support teachers in connecting district initiatives to their instruction.
- Partner with other staff to contribute to student achievement and the alignment and sustainability of resources.
- Model and facilitate the use of the multiple forms of student-level data and student work available; support and develop the staff's ability to analyze and use this data to drive instructional decisions; focus staff on closing achievement gaps between subgroups of students based upon data analysis.

Communication Leadership

- Work with the principal to create processes to resolve problems and /or areas of conflict; address conflicts openly and work to resolve them; monitor discussions about solutions to ensure that all perspectives are heard and taken into consideration.
- Participate in designing opportunities for family and community engagement in the schools.
- Communicate to teachers the importance of consistent communications with families about their children's progress and specific ways they can support their children's learning and create systems for accomplishing these communications. Develop communications that link increased family presence in the school building and school-wide academic goals.
- Manage student behavior effectively and ensure that discipline is consistently enforced and monitored; review attendance, suspension and other data to identify trends and intervene to prevent issues.
- Communicate with parents and teachers regarding changing student behavior; review the need for changes to expectations and rules; modify plans and strategies to better manage behavior and discipline processes to decrease student referrals for behavior concerns.

Management Leadership

- Support the principal in creating a culturally competent environment where diversity is valued and all students and adults thrive and achieve at the highest levels by performing

- staff training, providing support for diverse groups in the school, assisting school staff with integrating learning opportunities that come from a diverse community into the school culture.
- Supervise facilities and equipment; develop infrastructure that provides safe, engaging and positive learning environment; identify creative solutions to maximize and share space; implement processes that protect instructional time from interruptions and crises whenever possible; monitor the effect of the master schedule on the ability of staff to collaboratively plan and any potential effect on student achievement.
 - Assist the principal with establishing processes for staff management; implement these processes; develop processes for providing formal and informal methods for providing feedback to staff on their performance; support, mentor and coach staff members as appropriate; implement professional development plans to improve performance; work with the school principal to create leadership and professional growth opportunities.

Kenneth also serves as an Adjunct Professor of Urban Education with Metropolitan State University and has taught the following courses: EDU 200 Introduction to Urban Education and Reflective Teaching, EDU 341 Child and the Family in an Urban Setting, EDU 203 Introduction to Multicultural Education, EDU 345 Integrated Classroom Management, and EDU 333 Assessment of Learning in Urban Grades K-6.

Kenneth is a co-founder of Community Minded Educators LLC. This consulting company is about bring attention to race and equality to the forefront of the education of African-American children. Kenneth has over 27 years in the education field and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the field of urban education. As a lecturer his primary focus will always be empowerment and inclusion within the urban communities and exposing those who are considered privileged to the cultural diversities and understanding within the broken education system.

Kenneth has added to the academia by publishing the following:

The Journal of Education Research and Interdisciplinary Studies; Volume II, Issue IV Fall 2019/Winter 2019 African-Centered Pedagogy: Exploring Black Male Identity and Achievement through an African-Centered Lens

Dissertation: African-Centered Pedagogy: Exploring Black Male Identity and Achievement through an African-Centered Lens, 6/2018

The Miseducation of Nigger of Nigger in American Schools; Chapter 20; Talking About Race: Alleviating the Fear, 4/2013

Afro-Centric Education; Article Spokesman-Recorder, 2/2004

The Black Collegian; Article, 2/2003

The Undelivered Dream; Article St. Mary's University, 5/2000

“Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.” That quote by Malcolm X speaks to me often and it’s a constant reminder of the importance and values of education and without it how limited we will become. Kenneth is married and resides in the Twin Cities.