myWHY
Inspiration from educators.
PODCAST

Eric Bowman, Ed.S.

2020 Mid-Cumberland & Middle Tennessee Principal of the Year
Principal, T.W. Hunter Middle School
Hendersonville, Tennessee

"Let your light shine before others."

Podcast Episode — Run Time 14:03
http://podcast.ayersinstitute.org

Professional Biography

Eric Bowman has 16 years of experience as an educator including as a social studies teacher, district evaluator, assistant principal, and now is in his 4th year as a middle school principal. He was recognized in 2010 as the 'Sumner County Middle School Principal of the Year' and in 2020 as the 'Mid-Cumberland & Middle Tennessee Principal of the Year'. Under his leadership, T.W. Hunter Middle School has shown significant improvements in student achievement and was named a TDOE Reward School in 2018 & 2019 and a 'Top 10 public middle school' in the metropolitan area by the Nashville Business Journal.

Lessons Learned

- **Teaching and leading cannot occur in isolation.** Delivering a quality education is achieved through the collective effort of many individuals working together.
- **Building the capacity of individuals** rather than the implementation of programs is essential to ensuring a school's success.
- Leadership requires **honesty, vulnerability, and risk.**

Favorite Resources

- **Books:**

  "*Quiet Leadership*" by David Rock

  "*Fierce Conversations*" by Susan Scott

  "*The Art of Coaching*" by Elena Aguilar

  "*7 Habits of Highly Effective People*" by Stephen Covey

- **Scriptures:** Colossians 3:23, Colossians 4:6
- **Quotes:**

  "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit." – Will Durant

  "Leading in a culture of change means creating a culture (not just a structure) of change. It does not mean adopting innovations, one after another; it does mean producing the capacity to seek, critically assess, and selectively incorporate new ideas and practices."
  – Michael Fullan

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