

6 ways to increase leadership visibility

Being visible will foster trust with your staff and improve teaching and learning.

Wander purposefully: Wandering around was a management strategy used at Hewlett-Packard in the company's early days. Wandering with a purpose allows an education leader to understand their school's instructional needs and to make informed decisions that impact student learning.



Visit classrooms: To understand instructional practice well enough to deliver constructive feedback, education leaders need to visit classrooms early and often, and to observe these rooms through multiple lenses: teachers interacting with students, students interacting with classmates, and teachers interacting with one another.

Teach classes: Getting back into the classroom is a highly effective way to bridge the gap between administration and staff. Encourage teachers to invite you in to teach a lesson. Use that time to model instructional practices that you feel strongly about and want others to use.



Have lunch with students: When staffers see administrators connecting with others outside the office setting, they will be more open to collaboration. Why? Because they see leaders reinforcing that being available to, and engaging with, students and teachers is the priority.

Play on the playground: This strategy speaks for itself. It is a great way to have fun, be a part of your school and have staff see you outside the classroom. Also: Your students will love it.



Get involved in the community: Being involved outside your school allows community members to get to know, and hear from, their school leaders. It's also a great time to promote and market your school.