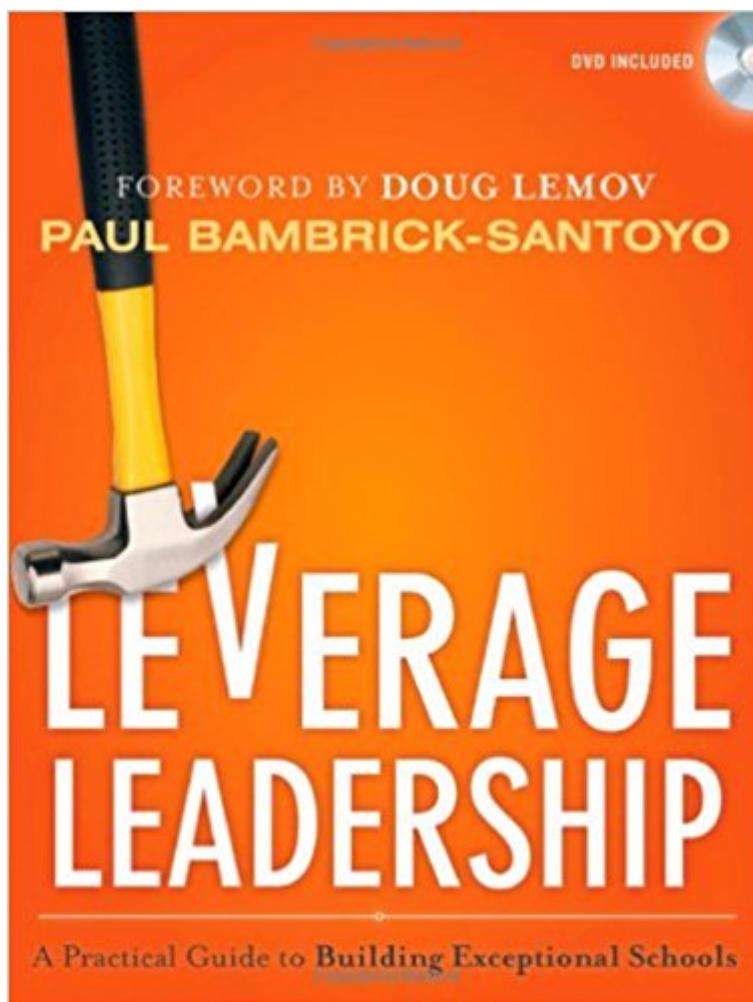


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# Leverage Leadership: A Practical Guide To Building Exceptional Schools



## **Synopsis**

Paul Bambrick-Santoyo (Managing Director of Uncommon Schools) shows leaders how they can raise their schools to greatness by following a core set of principles. These seven principles, or "levers," allow for consistent, transformational, and replicable growth. With intentional focus on these areas, leaders will leverage much more learning from the same amount of time investment. Fundamentally, each of these seven levers answers the core questions of school leadership: What should an effective leader do, and how and when should they do it. Aimed at all levels of school leadership, the book is for any principal, superintendent, or educator who wants to be a transformational leader. The book includes 30 video clips of top-tier leaders in action. These videos bring great schools to you, and support a deeper understanding of both the components of success and how it looks as a whole. There are also many helpful rubrics, extensive professional development tools, calendars, and templates. Explores the core principles of effective leadership Author's charter school, North Star Academy in Newark, New Jersey, received the highest possible award given by the U.S. Department of Education; the National Blue Ribbon Print version includes an instructive DVD with 30 video clips to show how it looks in real life. E-book customers: please note that details on how to access the content from the DVD may be found in the e-book Table of Contents. Please see the section: "How to Access DVD Contents" Bambrick-Santoyo has trained more than 1,800 school leaders nationwide in his work at Uncommon Schools and is a recognized expert on transforming schools to achieve extraordinary results.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

For too long and for too many children our education system has not worked. Yet in the face of these struggles, there are principals, superintendents, and coaches who have built extraordinary schools—not just once, but multiple times. What sets these leaders apart? Leverage Leadership demonstrates that exceptional school leaders succeed because of how they use their time: what they do, and how and when they do it. By consistently using seven core principles or "levers," each minute of their day is leveraged to maximal results. Armed with this insight, this practical guide offers the tools and systems needed to replicate these leaders' success: Drive as much teacher development in a year as most schools do in 20 (instructional levers—Chapters 1-4) Build the habits of mind and heart that can shape a strong school culture (cultural levers—Chapters 5-6) With 30 videos of top-tier leaders in action along with full professional development materials, ready-to-use rubrics, and calendars, Leverage Leadership brings great schools to you—and allows you to create one yourself. "Leverage Leadership offers a clear, detailed blueprint that will give both emerging and veteran leaders new tools for success. When it comes to school leadership, we've all been looking for guidance: now we have it." —Jean-Claude Brizard, chief executive officer, Chicago Public Schools "Bambrick-Santoyo shows that the 'miracles' of great school leadership aren't really miracles at all. Instead, they're the results of precise actions that will dramatically improve any school's instruction and culture, creating extraordinary results for all." —Jean S. Desravines, chief executive officer, New Leaders "Bambrick-Santoyo illuminates the actions and systems used by the best school leaders in the country, and then he shows you how to make them yours. If you are a school leader, or want to become one, then this is the most important book you can own. Read it and use it!" —Mark Murphy, executive director, Vision Network

Paul Bambrick-Santoyo is the managing director of the award-winning North Star Academies in Newark, New Jersey. He has trained thousands of school leaders nationwide in his work at Uncommon Schools and as a faculty member for New Leaders. He is also the author of *Driven by Data: A Practical Guide to Improve Instruction*.

This book is a must read for anyone who aspires to be a leader, is just starting out as a leader and wants to know how to do it, or has been a good leader but wants to get great. Similar books in this genre can often seem so esoteric that it is hard to figure out how to start using them. From the first chapter to the last, this book gives advice, suggestions, and real-life examples that are so accessible that the reader is compelled to go try them out immediately. I'm excited to share this

book and its teachings with our current and future leaders and am confident that this will be a must-read for every member of DC Prep's campus leadership teams as we grow from our current 3 to 10 schools in the coming years. Training or professional development by Paul Bambrick-Santoyo has always been an exceptional opportunity to learn and grow. Now, his leadership lessons will be in the palm of our hands. Bravo! Alicia Robinson Chief Talent Officer DC Prep

This is a fantastic book. Great ideas and a CD of PD as well. I highly recommend this book as one of the best ones I have read this year.

Another great book for educators by Bambrick-Santoyo. Interesting for any educator, but would be extremely practical for administrators who truly want to impact achievement at their schools. Lots of clear examples, action plans, and research-supported practices are included.

Bought for an Admin. class. Good read

Edited below: Book is heavily dependent on additional media material, such as videos and pdf's, which you are supposed to download from Wiley. Apparently you can only download this material if you buy direct from Wiley, and is not available if you buy from them on . You must create an account with Wiley before you can download, and the only way to do that is to buy directly from them. I contacted both the author(Santoyo) and the publisher(Wiley) and they do not respond to emails or return calls, even after a week! I am so frustrated I almost returned it, but there is a little in there that I use for reference. Notice other reviews stated the same thing. I wish I listened to them. Edit: This is a great book, and once you get to the additional media it is super useful. Thank you so much to the author for help on getting the DVD material for the book. The way to access this is go to the part about how to access the DVD contents and find the link to the website and your "Reference ID." Go to the Wiley website via the link in the book. You do not need to create a new account. Your email for is your user name. The reference ID in the book is the password.

This book is a great read for any administrator or instructional coach. Specific details are explained how to transform your school with video clips to illustrate. There are self assessments so that you can reflect on where your school stands, and there are suggested timelines with action steps for change. This book is practical and a one-stop read to help make change. They even include possible PD that you can use with your faculty. I would highly recommend this book.

For more than twenty years, experts have admonished principals to be "instructional leaders," but many principals still struggle to fulfill that charge because the concept has remained ill-defined, fuzzy, and frankly, somewhat impractical. Not anymore. *Leverage Leadership* offers an exceptionally clear, concrete, and actionable plan for how school leaders can exercise precise kinds of instructional leadership that will make a big impact on teachers' practice and students' learning. Want to know how to observe classroom instruction and provide useful feedback to teachers? This book offers a step by step guide. What about professional development of teachers? That's covered, too. Bambrick-Santoyo even addresses the biggest practical challenge to principals' instructional leadership: Finding -- and protecting -- the necessary time. In fact, there is more practical wisdom and specific advice about how to be an effective instructional leader in this book than in anything else ever been written on the topic. Best of all, Bambrick-Santoyo shares all of the tools he has developed as a supervisor and coach of principals, from an "Observation Tracker" to a "Superintendent's Dashboard." My colleagues and I found this book to be so useful that we just bought 50 copies for an upcoming conference of school district leaders. It's hard to imagine a better book on education being published this year.

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