

## David Nagel



Dr. David Nagel is a Senior Professional Development Associate with The Leadership and Learning Center. A former middle/high school biology teacher, department chair, and administrator, Dave's work has been extensive in secondary education, specifically 9-12. While working in his former district in The MSD of Wayne Township in Indianapolis, IN, he was able to utilize his strengths in building collaborative teams and focusing on relationship building with staff and students. His efforts in both an evening school/extended day model as well as the traditional day school setting transformed Ben Davis High School (enrollment 3,400 grade 10-12) from a middle of the road high school (in terms of diplomas awarded) into a graduation factory. By focusing on differentiated goals for students based on specific proficiency measures, and focusing practices that were embedded for all

students, Ben Davis was able to move their graduation rate 14% in just over four years.

As a Professional Developer with The Center since 2003, David has worked in all of the core areas The Center provides Data Teams, Common Formative Assessments, Creating Performance Assessments (ECA, *Engaging Classroom Assessments*). His work has consistently been with high school teachers and leaders, helping them adapt The Center's work to meet the needs of the comprehensive high school. It was during this time that the hypothesis to work on collaboration, relationships, and the idea of "flatter/thicker leadership" *first* came to him. He has worked with audiences as small as 3-4 and keynoted for as many as five-hundred. His specific grade-related work has been with leaders, such as the principals of Des Moines Public Schools, and several other large districts, such as Wayne Township, where the focus really was on practices and not policies.

David has been published multiple times in various publications such as *Principal Leadership* and *Educational Leadership*, as well has presented at various national conferences such as ASCD, National Staff Development Council (NSDC), National Association of Secondary School Principals, and National School Boards Association (NSBA). His pending book, co-authored with Dr. Lisle Gates, will accompany their seminar on action steps for effective high schools, specifically true and focused collaboration.

David stays very busy with his beautiful and supportive wife, Kristen, and two boys (ages 7 and 2), with another Nagel boy due in September, 2011. Kristen works full time and does *most* of the raising of the children. When Dave is traveling, he has a great family and a great woman beside him and acknowledges this every day.

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