



Welcome to the Ignite Leadership Curriculum!

The Ignite Leadership Curriculum was intentionally developed to help schools cultivate leadership through *structure, practice, and purpose*. This scope and sequence offers a high-level view of how leadership instruction, youth development, and college and career readiness are integrated into a cohesive learning experience.

Lesson plans are designed to be clear, accessible, and easy to implement, while still driving meaningful dialogue and impactful learning. Assessments are intentionally aligned to instruction, ensuring students are evaluated on the skills they are explicitly taught and given opportunities to practice.

Ignite is built around a Leadership Growth Cycle that guides student development: learn the skill through explicit instruction and theory, practice through applied learning (including mentoring experiences for those who choose), reflect and assess growth, and continuously improve toward mastery.

This curriculum is designed for any school, anywhere, and intentionally scaffolded to support students who are new to leadership while providing depth and challenge for students with prior experience whose potential is still growing.

For schools or districts seeking a customized scope and sequence, standards alignment, or implementation support, we welcome the opportunity to collaborate.

— The Ignite for Schools Team



Ignite Leadership Curriculum Scope and Sequence

Course / Grade Content: Leadership & Personal Development Curriculum (10-12th)

In this 34-week *Ignite Leadership Curriculum*, students will develop the art of mentorship, relationship-building, goal setting, learning strategies, and self-advocacy through reflective and experiential instruction. Each student will be assigned a team of peers—referred to as mentors—whom they will guide and meet with monthly to teach core leadership and life-readiness. As leadership mentors, they will learn, plan, and facilitate monthly mentorship meetings between mentors and incoming student groups, serving as the bridge between school leadership and the wider student community.

By the end of the course, students will have contributed to sustaining the school’s student mentorship program, written and delivered lessons, and practiced essential leadership competencies. They will also collaborate with school leadership to support initiatives related to student attendance, academic literacy, behavior support, and programs that help new students feel welcomed and connected to the school community.

The *Ignite Leadership* curriculum is founded on the **Five Pillars of Leadership**, which measure essential skills in communication, collaboration, adaptability, critical thinking, and personal/civic development. These pillars align with the **National Career and Technical Education Framework** (exploratory) and **Education & Training, Business and Family & Consumer Science CTE Pathways** (exploratory/preparatory).

This framework defines measurable outcomes that prepare students for postsecondary success and workforce readiness. Each pillar—**Communication, Collaboration, Adaptability, Critical Thinking, and Personal/Civic Development**—represents an essential dimension of leadership that can be demonstrated through both classroom and community-based experiences. Students are guided to reflect on their growth, apply feedback, and model leadership behaviors that strengthen their 21st century skills and contribution to others.

Curriculum Structure: The *Ignite Leadership Curriculum* is organized into **6 units**, with a brief Introductory addition and a culminating Capstone project.

Units vary in length from several weeks to multiple months and are intentionally aligned with the school’s mentoring cycles. The curriculum is inherently **project-based**, integrating committee structures, skills development, and measurable outcomes. Students engage in journaling and reflective practice, leveraging high-impact teaching strategies such as self-evaluation, guided conferences, and feedback cycles that promote shared understanding and growth.

Unit Name / Approx. Timeframe	Key Concepts/ Essential Questions	Standards	Assessments
Unit 0: <i>Foundations of Ignite</i>	This introductory unit establishes the foundation for a positive , inclusive, and collaborative classroom culture while defining the processes and expectations of the course.	ELA (Speaking & Listening) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate and participate effectively in collaborative discussions 	Leadership Readiness & Professional Dispositions Rubric



<p><i>(2 weeks)</i></p>	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore empathy, communication, and community awareness as essential leadership skills • Learn the structure and purpose of the Ignite Committees • Take an active role in developing goals, feedback systems, and procedures that support mentoring and school-wide initiatives. <p>Essential Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does it mean to lead with empathy and inclusion? • How do structures and systems support strong mentoring communities? • How can I contribute to a positive leadership culture? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present information clearly and logically <p>Health Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate effective interpersonal communication skills • Practice behaviors that support healthy relationships <p>Social Studies (Civics & Decision-Making)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze roles of individuals in civic and school communities <p>Career Readiness Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Act as a responsible and contributing member of a team 	<p>Collaborative Leadership Compact</p> <p>Committee Structure & Role Alignment Plan</p>
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<p>Unit 1: <i>Communication and Facilitation</i> (5-6 weeks)</p>	<p>Students will develop confident communication and facilitation skills to strengthen relationships, lead discussions, and deliver impactful messages.</p> <p>Essential Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How does effective communication build trust and collaboration?• How can I adapt my message to different audiences and purposes?• What does it mean to lead a conversation with purpose?	<p>ELA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collaborative discussions• Purposeful oral presentation• Adapt speech to task and audience <p>Health Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communication skills to enhance relationships <p>Career Readiness Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communicate clearly and effectively• Employ valid reasoning and feedback	<p>Reflective Leadership Journals</p> <p>Professional Communication Performance Task</p> <p>Communication Growth Reflection</p>
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<p>Unit 2: <i>Servant Leadership</i> (4-5 weeks)</p>	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine personal values and leadership theories to practice servant leadership and foster belonging in their communities. Distinguish between values and beliefs and analyze how they guide decision-making and relationships. Examine key leadership theories and apply them through real-world practice and reflection. Develop strategies to create a sense of belonging (seen, valued, safe, included). <p>Essential Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How do my values influence my leadership decisions? What does it mean to lead through service? How can I help others feel seen, valued, and included? 	<p>ELA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cite textual evidence and draw conclusions Collaborative dialogue <p>Health Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze influences on behavior and decision-making Positive social behaviors <p>Social Studies (Civics)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze individual responsibility and leadership in groups <p>Career Readiness Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leadership styles, ethical decision-making, service orientation 	<p>Leadership Style Self & Peer Assessment</p> <p>Personal Leadership & Life Plan (Draft)</p> <p>Applied Leadership Theory One-Pager</p> <p>Mentor-to-Mentor Leadership Practice Evaluation</p>
<p>Unit 3: <i>Academic Literacy</i> (6-8 weeks)</p>	<p>Students will analyze academic data, apply learning strategies, and use initiative to support their own and others' academic success.</p> <p>Essential Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does academic literacy shape my opportunities and future? 	<p>ELA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct research projects Strategic use of digital media Present findings clearly <p>Mathematical & Data Literacy (Integrated)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interpret performance data, benchmarks, and trends <p>Social Studies (Inquiry & Decision-Making)</p>	<p>Midterm Mentoring & Leadership Performance Assessment</p> <p>Academic Success & Goal-Setting Plan</p> <p>Data-Informed Action Plan</p> <p>Mentoring Facilitation & Feedback Review</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can data and reflection guide better decisions? • How can I help others develop strategies for success? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine relevant data for problem solving <p>Career Readiness Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply academic knowledge to real-world situations • Utilize critical thinking to solve problems 	
<p>Unit 4: <u><i>Self Awareness</i></u> <i>(4-5 weeks)</i></p>	<p>Students will develop self-awareness, identify motivations and strengths, and practice goal-setting and self-advocacy skills.</p> <p>Essential Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who am I and what makes me unique? • What motivates me to grow and succeed? • How can I take ownership of my personal development? 	<p>ELA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborative discussion • Reflective writing <p>Health Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-management and goal setting <p>Social Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze individual behavior in group contexts <p>Career Readiness Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate self-advocacy and professional growth 	<p>Leadership Profile & Strengths Narrative Reflective</p> <p>Self-Assessment Essay</p> <p>Adaptive Performance & Growth Reflection</p> <p>Well-Being & Motivation Mapping</p>



<p>Unit 5: <i>Future Ready</i> (4-5 weeks)</p>	<p>Students will identify strengths and career interests, practice professional communication, and prepare for postsecondary opportunities.</p> <p>Essential Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do I take ownership of my future pathway? • How can I showcase my leadership and mentoring experiences? • What skills and habits will prepare me for college and career success? 	<p>ELA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present information using logical organization and rhetorical strategies • Initiate and participate in collaborative discussions • Adapt speech to interviews and professional contexts • Write informative/explanatory texts (resumes, applications) <p>Health Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze peer influence on decision-making and behavior <p>Social Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe how group dynamics influence behavior • Analyze how individuals influence organizations <p>Career Readiness Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend to personal and professional well-being • Professional communication • Career planning and self-advocacy 	<p>Career Pathway Research Project</p> <p>Professional Application Portfolio (Resume / College Application)</p> <p>Structured Interview Simulation & Reflection</p> <p>Mentoring Role & Interview Design Task</p>
<p>Unit 6: <i>Capstone</i> (6 weeks)</p>	<p>Students will synthesize leadership learning through a capstone project that demonstrates growth, impact, and mastery of the Five Pillars of Leadership.</p> <p>Essential Questions:</p>	<p>ELA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver formal presentations to inform and engage • Use multimedia components strategically • Revise writing using feedback 	<p>Leadership Capstone Project & Presentation</p> <p>Five Pillars of Leadership Mastery Assessment</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How have I grown as a leader and global citizen?• What practices will help me continue developing as a leader?• How can I use my leadership to impact others?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct research and synthesize information <p>Health Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate leadership behaviors that support others <p>Career Readiness Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Act professionally and responsibly• Demonstrate ethical leadership• Apply leadership and teamwork skills	
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