Self-Assessment

The leadership qualities that were used to analyze a person in the relationship model are qualities that were introduced to me three years ago as a camper in the Shelton Leadership Challenge. However, until the first class I never was able to analyze how effective my use of those qualities was. The relational leadership model is a guide for leaders to utilize and apply in group settings to improve the dynamic of the team. Utilizing these aspects of leadership creates a bond among a team that is unbreakable. An individual's strength is a team's strength but at the same time an individual's weakness is a team’s weakness as well. In order to reach this dynamic the aspects of the relational leadership model (purpose, inclusive, process-oriented, empowering, and ethical) must be used.

A team to me is nothing without a goal or a way of achieving this goal. Purpose to me is a burning passion a leader shares with their team. Purpose is a big aspect for an individual when it comes to leadership. If you don’t have a burning passion to reach a set goal and if other members of the team don’t have that same passion, it doesn’t matter what you do that goal will not be attained. Unless you have a purpose to work tirelessly alongside your teammates or not willing to run the extra mile for your team the team will not be able to function smoothly. Being process-orientated to me is having a set system that utilizes the strengths and weaknesses of all team members to form the ideal plan to achieve a goal. Utilizing the strengths and weaknesses of all team members is key. If a plan solely depends on the utilization of a couple of strengths of one or two member’s, it’s no longer a team working towards a shared goal and the team will not be successful. Tom Brady and Bill Belichick didn’t create a dynasty, that has included six Superbowl rings, by themselves. They’re known for taking average players as well as different free agents and turning them into all-pros by the end of each season. This is because each year they have an incredible ability to tailor the game plan to the strengths of the team.

Ethics to me is being fair in the process of achieving the goals the team has set and being fair to other team members. Being inclusive to me overlaps with ethics because no team member should ever be excluded based on sexual orientation, race, or social status. For me one should be evaluated on how they can help the team reach its goals. Following ethical guidelines breaks barriers within the team creating a tension free work environment. Following ethical guidelines also ensures that everyone in the work environment has equal opportunities to prove themselves throughout the process. This leads into empowering others in the work environment. For me empowering is creating a work environment where everyone has equal opportunities to prove what they can do for the team. This starts with following ethical guidelines to ensure that such environment is attained. Empowering others also leads to an inclusive environment where team members are pushed to do their best to help the team reach its shared goal.

As a leader I’m most confident with my ability to express my passion, empower/including others, and following ethical guidelines. I’m confident in my utilization of these aspects because I have used these aspects of the model in my time as a peer leader for two years. I’m able to connect with others easily and I don’t tolerate any sort of discrimination. I believe that you should only be evaluated on what you can bring to the team nothing else. I feel less confident in the process aspect. For me I have seen myself struggle during the Shelton activities to lead my team members to find a process that works for everybody. As we start figuring out the process, I tend to get flustered with all the input and tend to get lost in the making of the plan for our goals. This service proposal will allow me to work on creating a process without getting flustered as I try to guide the team to a solution. The service proposal will put me in a spot where I must take input from team members and try to lead further conversations to create the best solution for reaching the teams goals.