“An effective principal is the most important piece to a school’s success. You can’t overstate how important a strong principal is. Effective principals reduce churn and increase school wide satisfaction.”

Martin McGreal  
Director of District and School Leadership at Illinois State Board of Education

“Of all the professional development opportunities that have been offered to me, this program has allowed me to grow the most.”

Brenda Fleer  
Assistant Principal, Quincy Public Schools & Lead|ED participant

“As we welcomed students back into our school this year, our focus shifted away from the academic piece and focused more on re-building a strong, positive school culture.”

Tim Moore  
Principal, Bloomington High School & Lead|ED participant

“As a leader you have to balance management vs leadership. So much is management, and this program gives you the structure to develop and integrate leadership skills.”

Jason Stabler  
Superintendent, Bureau County

“School leadership can be challenging work but being a part of Lead|ED gave us the tools and knowledge to create meaningful and lasting school improvement.”

Jenna Bibb  
Stark County Elementary Principal & Lead|ED participant
“It’s so hard to find models or a proof of concept that serve our schools, especially in rural districts. This program is a proof of concept. It has allowed our schools to be part of a larger scale, research-driven model, that works.”

David Ardrey  
Executive Director, Association of Illinois Rural and Small Schools

“Principals may choose to move on from a school. The value of this program is in developing a strong leader who institutionalizes a change process that continually improves a school—even once they’re gone.”

Dara Carr  
Former LeadED Coach, Regional Office of Education #28

“Research shows, powerful principal preparation increases the likelihood of candidates entering and staying in the principalship, ending the cycle of leadership churn.”

Dr. Linda Darling-Hammond  
Stanford University

“This program is a way of thinking. It’s long-lasting. It’s not a fad. It’s a lifestyle.”

David Hill  
Superintendent, Community Consolidated School District 93

“Just as we want our students to be learners, we also need to be learners ourselves. This program helps you learn, expands your leadership, and distributes that leadership in your school.”

Kim Dinkheller  
Director of Curriculum, Quincy Public Schools