

Innovative Leadership for a Better World

This workshop will develop ideas around how innovation happens, how innovation can harm and how we can consciously decide to innovate productively and lead humanely to heal ourselves and our world. Participants will leave with self-discovered, tangible ideas to take back to their schools.

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My Background

- Started teaching High School English in 2005
- Won three technology innovation grants
- Taught HS for 7 years, then made a major shift
- Continued to innovate in elementary
- Moved to administration, now I facilitate change





innovation



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Dictionary

innovation



in·no·va·tion

/,inə'vāSH(ə)n/ 

noun

the action or process of innovating.

synonyms: change, alteration, revolution, upheaval, transformation, metamorphosis, breakthrough;

[More](#)

- a new method, idea, product, etc.

plural noun: **innovations**

"technological innovations designed to save energy"

What is innovation?



Four Goals

1. Highlight the importance of innovation to our current world
2. Display how our mindset impacts our vision and achievements
3. Show how leadership can support positive innovation and growth for everyone
4. Discussion of how we create innovative leadership for students, and model it.



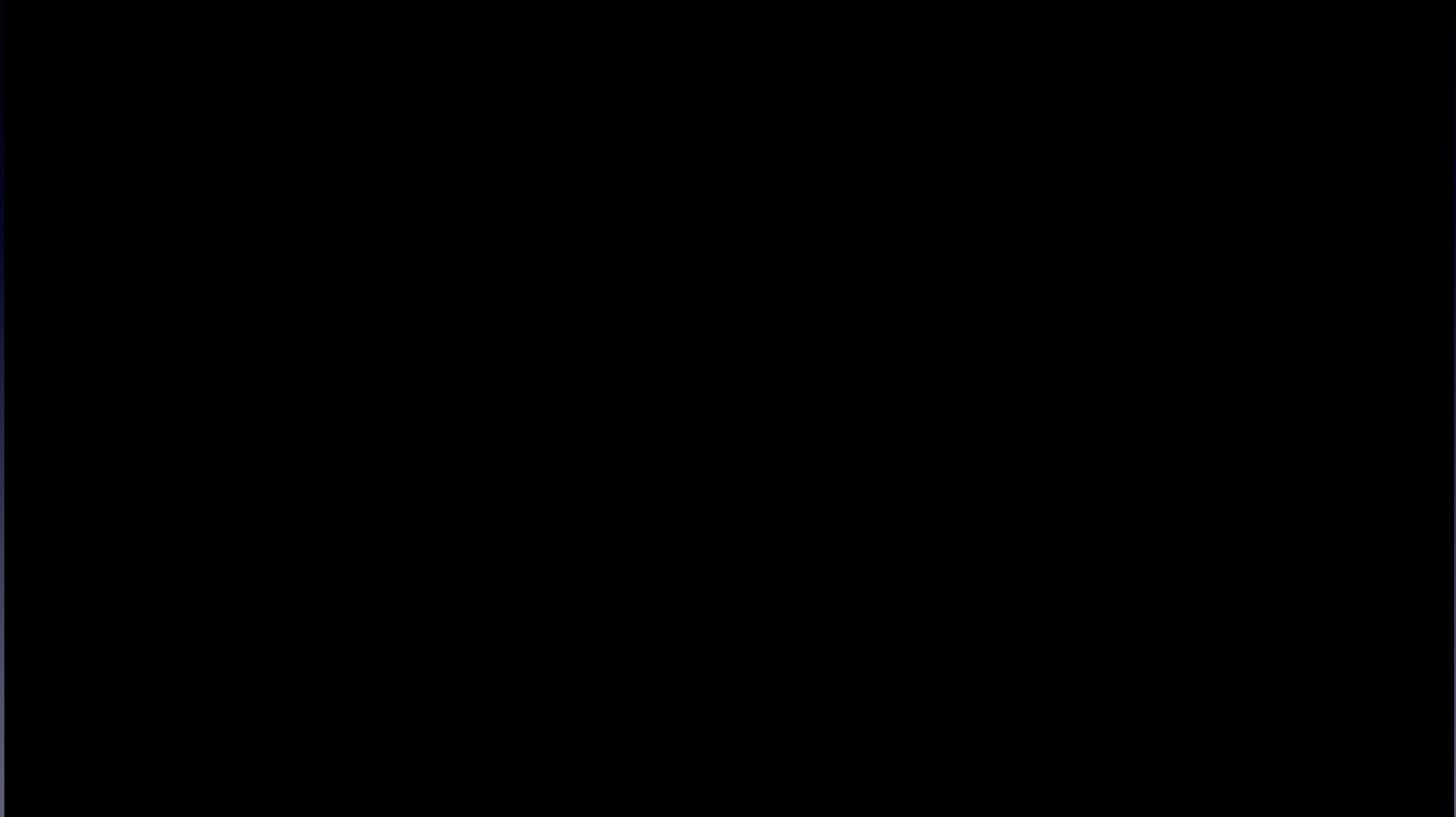
Innovation in our world



What innovation meant to me...

- New ways of reaching teaching goals
- Varied approaches to learning (novel project)
- collaboration and sharing with others (mentorship)





Innovators

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZykO3leRrIU>



Innovation Bias

- If innovation is about new ways, new ideas, what could go wrong?
- We have a bias that innovations are positive





connection

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5kFc5-D4PUs>

Apple sees themselves as innovative and frequently present that as a way for their customers to connect and better their world



Innovation is work

- One of the things Apple does best is create need and desire for their products through design
- They are meticulous and produce goods that are reliable and highly effective
- Effective at what?



The Challenges of Technology Innovation

electronic waste is a major concern in countries around the world, particularly India, where the bulk of electronic 'recycling' takes place



Thinking Break

- Let's come up with a really 'out there' idea, but one that would positively impact the lives of many people.
- Now, how many of you believe we could make it happen?
- What if I gave you a blank check for any amount of money you needed to achieve the goal? What do you think now?



Some questions...

- How you answered, but more than that, whether you truly **believe** that we could accomplish this, says a lot about the way you see the world.
- If you are very excited about this idea and ready to get started, you may have a very different mindset than someone sitting beside you



Mindsets and Innovation



Fixed mindset vs Growth mindset



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xv2ar6AKvGc>



Fixed vs Growth Mindset

- This impacts **everything** you do
- Every encounter, every conversation, every task
- You can change your mindset over time



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z6-l8TuYP3E>

What do you believe about others, about your team?

What do you believe about your administration?

We **need** to fail and develop over time!



Belief in your ability

- Holding a fixed mindset is paralyzing, and we see the impact in schools **daily**.
- One of the most important factors in leadership today is to be able to receive feedback *of any kind* and react to it in a positive fashion
- This does not mean always being happy about the feedback, but rather using it to make positive change



Positive Leadership



What the research is saying

“Leadership of the future will set itself up in a system of values that will require and impose a new type of leadership that will use power in favour of the individual, group and organization”

Leadership of the Future November 3, 2016 p. 386



George Couros

- 8 Traits of the Innovative Leader
 1. Visionary
 2. Empathetic
 3. Models Learning
 4. Open Risk Taker
 5. Networked
 6. Observant
 7. Team Builder
 8. Always Focused on Relationships

GeorgeCouros.ca October 3, 2014





Listen to Understand

Do you talk more than you listen?
Can you set aside all distractions and
be present for people?

Servant
Leadership
INSTITUTE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lqRXDZobRrQ>

9 Traits of Servant Leaders

What are you bringing to the table?

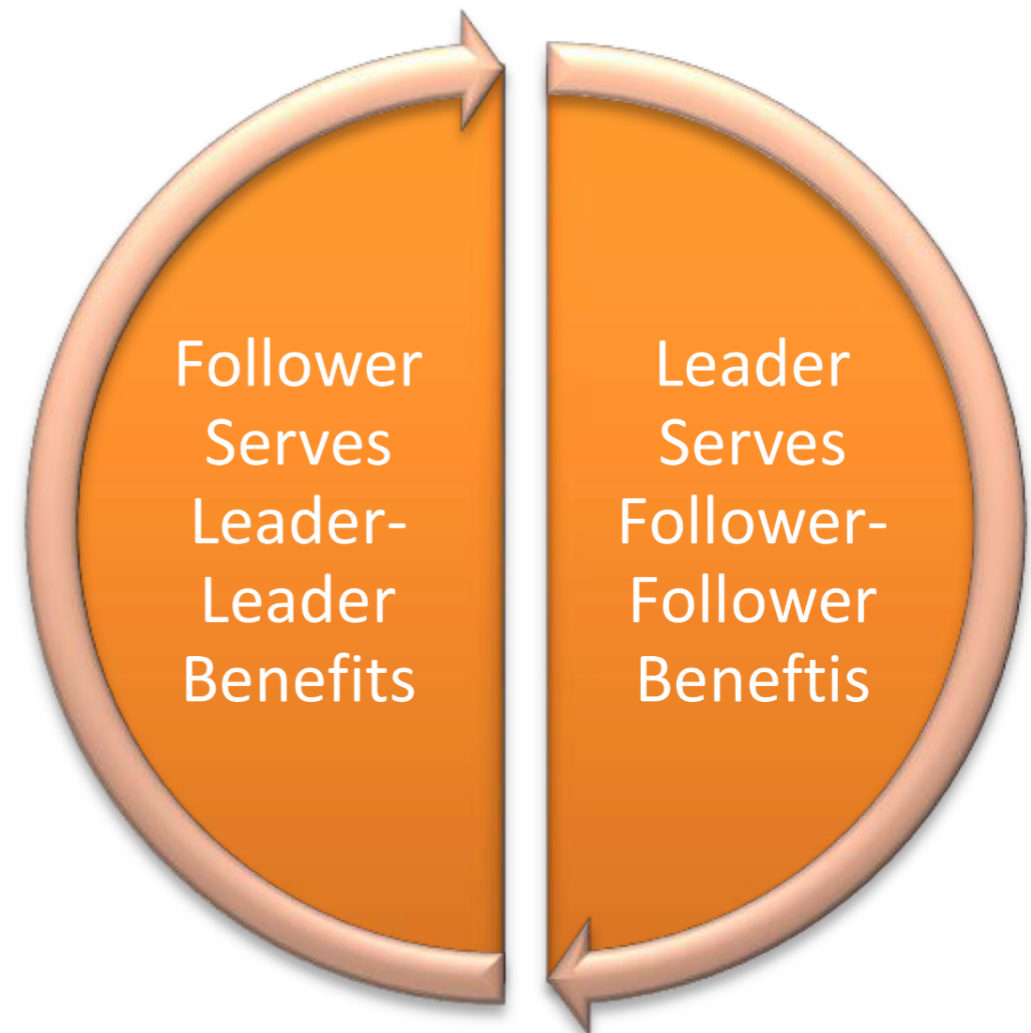


The Cycle of Benefit

- As you serve others, they see the benefit that you provide
- They begin to support you back
- Younger siblings? What happened when you 'bugged' them?

Figure 1.

Servant Leadership's Cycle of Benefit



Servant Leadership

- What does it look like in a school?
 - as a student
 - as a teacher



How technology has stopped evolution and is destroying the world

[Jo Confino](#) Thursday 11 July 2013 12.39 BST



- Does anyone know who Doug Tompkins is?



ESPRIT



Doug Tompkins & Steve Jobs

- Believed technology is enslaving us and doing irreparable damage to our world
- Was a friend of Jobs, they argued about the value of technology
- Jobs believed technology would bring us a great future, but turned away from the degradation it was causing
- He believed technology would bring a path for humans to save ourselves.
- Tompkins sought a different way, and a higher goal





- Tompkins last environmental preserve in Patagonia
- Spent more than 200,000,000 pounds buying over 2 million acres of natural land in Argentina and Chile
- He has purchased and preserved the most natural land of any single individual



Elon Musk

- Has grand goals, but is looking to transform our world. How can we tell the difference?
- Open source
- Futurist, about humanity (Mars colony)
- Responding to world issues (electric vehicles, solar)
- Free upgrades (that benefit...)



Mark Zuckerberg

- Article “Building Global Community” Feb, 2017
- Discussed how Facebook can support our global communities in five areas:
 1. supportive communities
 2. safe communities
 3. informed community
 4. civically-engaged community
 5. inclusive community
- There is self-interest in this for Facebook, but great benefit for our world as well.



WHAT KIND OF
LEADER
WILL YOU BE?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XITzLd6oXC0>



How do we involve students?

- Students are willing to give back in our schools, but they need skills to develop innovative leadership
- Growth mindset activities, project-based learning, opportunities to fail that are not high-stakes all help
- Clubs and groups that are student-led develop the tenets of servant leadership



What do you want to try?

- Let's brainstorm ideas of how you can show innovative leadership in your school
- What can you do to allow students choice and agency?



How are you going to serve?

- After all the information presented here:
 - What are the **values** that are going to drive your life?
 - What are the **actions** you are going to take to ensure these values live in the world?
 - What has **changed** for you as a result of this talk?
 - How are you going to serve?





Please email me at mrkeenan@gmail.com
and let me know what you value and how you
are going to serve your school, community
and world!

or send me a tweet *@MrDKeenan*

hashtag: #positiveleader

Thank You for your time!