

JUNE 17 2026

Let Us Lead

THE POWER OF LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND
OWNERSHIP IN GROWING CAREER-READY STUDENTS

PRESENTED BY

**PATRICK M ERWIN +
MAXWELL LEADERSHIP STUDENT AMBASSADORS**





GROWING LEADERS

POWERED BY MAXWELL LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION

Mission: To add value to leaders who multiply that value to others, resulting in growth and transformation.



Mission: To engage, equip, and empower today's student leaders to solve problems, serve people, and foster change in their community

It's the 5%

"You're going to find that 95% of all the decisions you'll ever make in your career could be made by a reasonably intelligent high school sophomore. But they'll pay you for the other 5%."



MARION FOLSOM

Eastman Kodak

Career Readiness



GET A JOB



DO A JOB



KEEP A JOB

Get a Job

Students must show that they are **hireable**.



SCUBA vs SNORKEL

Truth in a Nutshell

A snorkeler stays at **shallow** depth, but sees a **broader** picture of the ocean floor. Scuba divers go **deep**, looking at the wildlife up close. Hireable students do both. They develop a **breadth** of transferable skills across a **depth** of experiences.

Students Are More Ready Than They Often Think

- Instead of “I played soccer in school” say:
 - **“As a soccer player for 4 years in high school, I learned leadership skills, hard work, dedication, teamwork, and resilience.”**
- Instead “I was on student government” say:
 - **“As Vice President of our SGA, I helped plan events, communicate with adults, solve problems, meet deadlines, and represent others.”**

Snorkel Skills within Scuba Experiences

Do a Job

Students must show
that they are **Teachable**.



Molded Clay

Truth in a Nutshell

Just like a potter works with wet clay to **mold** it and **shape** it into a **form** with **function**, so too should young leaders remain **moldable**, **teachable**, and **willing** to learn new skills. Career-ready students carry a **humble** and **hungry** attitude into life.

Teachable Students Are:

1. **Humble** enough to listen and learn.
2. **Hungry** enough to ask questions.
3. **Adaptable** enough to adjust to new standards.
4. **Patient** enough to practice until they get it right.
5. **Resilient** enough to improve through challenges.

Technical skills can be taught but only to teachable people.

Keep A Job

Students must show that they are **Valuable**.



Ripple Effect

Truth in a Nutshell

When a rock impacts the surface of water it starts a **ripple effect**. Leaders who are **ripple starters** create movement beyond themselves. Their actions may begin small, but they **influence** the people and environment around them in a positive way.

The Law of the Lid:

A person's leadership ability determines their level of effectiveness. Raise your lid and increase your impact.

"We want to help students to see themselves as valuable, live by good values, and add value to others."

When students have good values on the inside, they need less validation from the outside.

-John C Maxwell



Transformation Tables

In Groups of No More Than Six

CHOOSE A FACILITATOR

They Read First
Share First
Stay on Track

TAKE TURNS

Each person reads, in turn, making note of passages that speak.

SHARE

Take turns sharing what you learned and answering the questions.

TAKE ACTION

Decide on an action step and share it

Students Support What They Help Create



Bring MLSA to Your School District

1. Equip and Empower Your Leaders
2. Get them Ready for Real Life
3. Generate Buy In Around Growth and Development
4. Create Peer-Led Leadership Opportunities
5. Generate Impact Without Burdening Teachers



Stay in Touch

@pmerwin

patrickmerwin.com