**"Leadership is communicating people's worth and potential so clearly that they are inspired to see it in themselves."**

**---Stephen R. Covey**

**What is *The Leader In Me*?**

*The Leader in Me* is an approach to developing a culture of leadership in our schools and is based on The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People® by Stephen Covey.  Founded on internationally recognized, universal principles, *The Leader in Me* model emphasizes skills that parents, teachers and business leaders want and that students need to be successful in an ever-changing society:

* Leadership                                  Responsibility
* Accountability                             Problem Solving
* Adaptability                                Communication
* Initiative and Self-direction       Creativity
* Cross-cultural Skills                    Teamwork

Developing a culture of leadership in our schools is about helping children be leaders of their own lives, it helps them identify their own unique talents and abilities and encourages them to make a positive difference in the world.

*The Leader in Me* approach has been shown to produce:

* higher academic achievement
* improved school culture
* decreases in disciplinary issues
* increased engagement among teachers and parents
* a common language for teachers, students, and parents
* and equips students with self-confidence and essential life skills

*The Leader in Me* is not an event and it's not a curriculum.  It is an integrated approach to leadership development that will help the district fulfill its mission statement:

*Our Mission Statement is “Empowering Every Student to Learn, Lead and Succeed!*

**Our *Leader in Me* Journey**

Alden Elementary has already embarked on this exciting journey to help all of our students become leaders.  Our district has accomplished the following:

* Trained "staff-trainers" in each building for long-term cost savings and sustainability
* Coordinated 7 Habits Signature Training for all PK-6 staff
* Integrated common language of 7 Habits into PK-6 classrooms and buildings
* Built an authentic relationship with Franklin-Covey
* Completed Implementation Training for all K-6 staff in the fall of 2013

**We Invite You To...**

Visit *The Leader in Me* website  <http://www.theleaderinme.org/>

Read *The Leader in Me* book by Stephen R. Covey

Ask your child about the 7 Habits

Ask your child about his/her data/leadership notebook

Visit A.B. Combs Elementary School's website <http://combses.wcpss.net/>

Attend a concert or performance where students are interpreting the 7 Habits

Visit Beaumont Elementary School's website <http://www.beaumonttogetherwelead.com/>

Download a list of suggested books that you can use to reinforce the 7 Habits at home [HERE!](http://www.novi.k12.mi.us/downloads/7_habits_docs/books_to_reinforce_7_habits_20130317_182954_1.pdf%22%20%5Co%20%22Books%20to%20Reinforce%207%20Habits%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

Visit the Sean Covey website for 7 Habits games and activities for kids <http://www.seancovey.com/>

Begin with the End in Mind (Habit #2): Set a goal, track progress and celebrate!

Model the 7 Habits in your family

Attend a 7 Habits of Highly Effective Families Session taught by one of our teacher

**"A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way."**

**---John C. Maxwell**

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**Habit One: Be Proactive**

* I have a "Can Do" attitude.
* I choose my actions, attitudes and moods. I don't blame others. I do the right thing without being asked, even if nobody is looking.

**Habit Two: Begin with the End in Mind**

* I plan ahead and set goals.
* I do things that have meaning and make a difference. I am an important part of my classroom. I look for ways to be a good citizen.

**Habit Three: Put First Things First**

* I spend my time on things that are most important.
* This means I say no to things I should not do.
* I set priorities, make a schedule, and follow my plan. I am organized.

**Habit Four: Think Win-Win**

* I want everyone to be a success. I don't have to put others down to get what I want. It makes me happy to see other people happy. I like to do nice things for others. When a conflict arrives, I help brainstorm a solution. We all can win!

**Habit Five: Seek First To Listen, Then to Be Understood**

* I listen to other people's ideas and feelings. I try to see things from their viewpoints.
* I listen to others without interrupting. I am confident in voicing my ideas.

**Habit Six: Synergize**

* I value other people's strengths and learn from them. I get along well with others, even people who are different from me. I work well in groups. I seek out other people's ideas to solve problems. I know that "two heads are better than one". I am a better person when I let other people into my life and work.

**Habit Seven: Sharpen the Saw**

* I take care of my body by eating right, exercising, and getting sleep. I spend time with family and friends. I learn in lots of ways and lots of places.