

EPISODE 106

Visiting Classrooms at the End of the School Year



INSTRUCTIONAL
LEADERSHIP SHOW



Essential Question



How can we be a positive presence in classrooms in the final weeks of school?

The Dilemma



- We can still make a difference, but...
- Some people/students aren't coming back
- Most of the learning is behind us
- Everyone is exhausted

Learning Till The Final Bell



Be Present & Pleasant



Focus on Fundamentals

- Visit 3 classrooms a day
- Keep a consistent rotation
- Stay for 5-15 minutes
- Chat briefly with the teacher



EOY Documentation

- Visit every teacher, in order
- Track your visits with notecards
- Don't worry about written feedback



Name		Room	Lunch		Prep
Period/Subject	Date	Date	Date	Date	Date

The Low-Hanging Fruit



The Low-Hanging Fruit

- Ineffective practices
- Low-level questioning
- Disengaged students
- Pacing & interest



Leaders Look Upstream

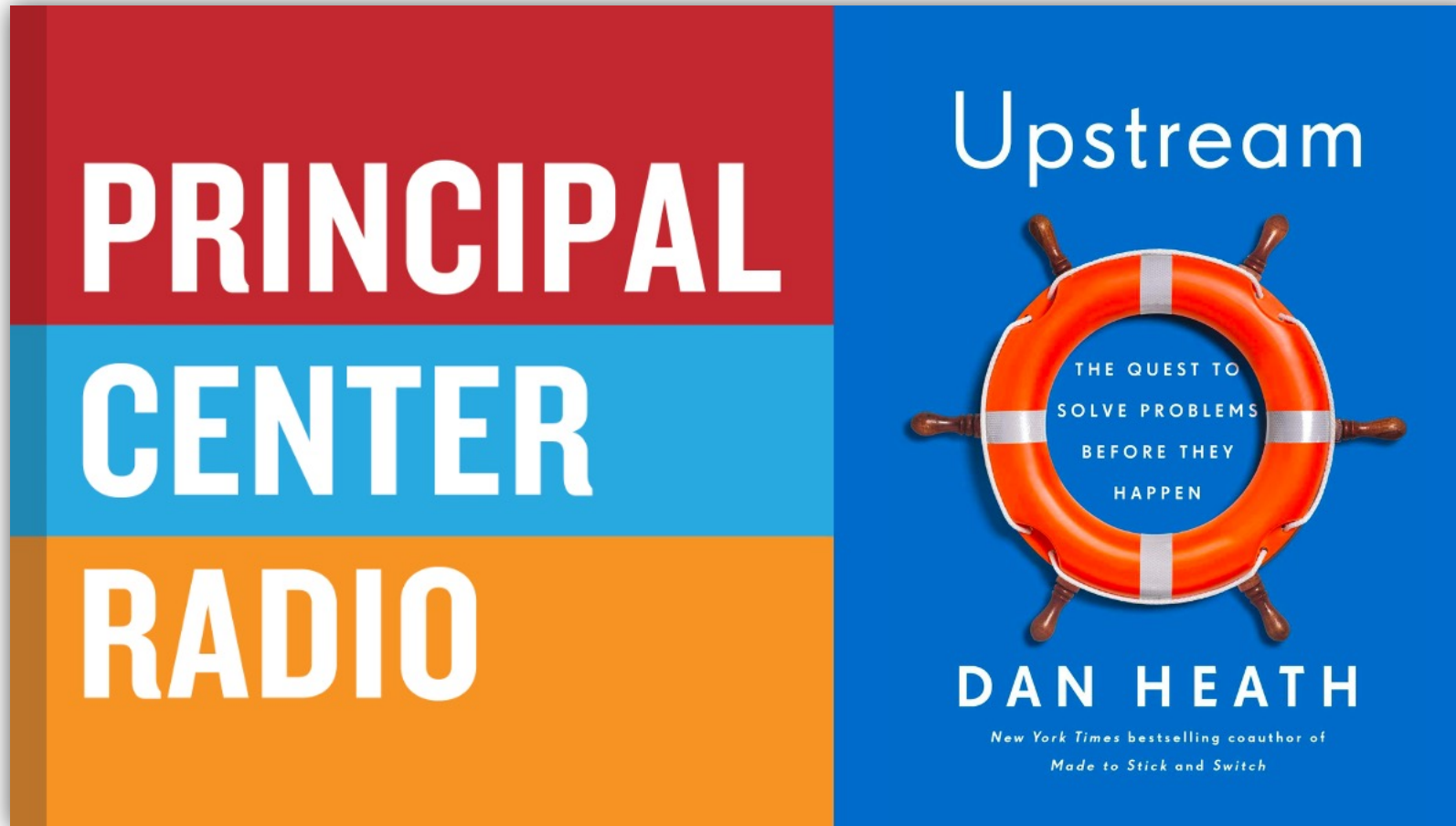


- If you see low-hanging fruit, take it
- The biggest remaining opportunities for improvement are probably upstream

Leaders Look Upstream



Upstream



PrincipalCenter.com/dan-heath



The Truth About Your Impact



Most of your impact as an instructional leader will NOT be due to feedback you give in the moment.

It'll be due to the long-term investments in teacher capacity you make over time.

Investing in Teacher Capacity



- Professional development
- Building teacher collective efficacy through PLCs
- Strategic planning & prioritization
- Protecting priorities in your schedule and budget
- Running interference for teachers so they can stay the course despite state, federal, and district policy churn

A Definition



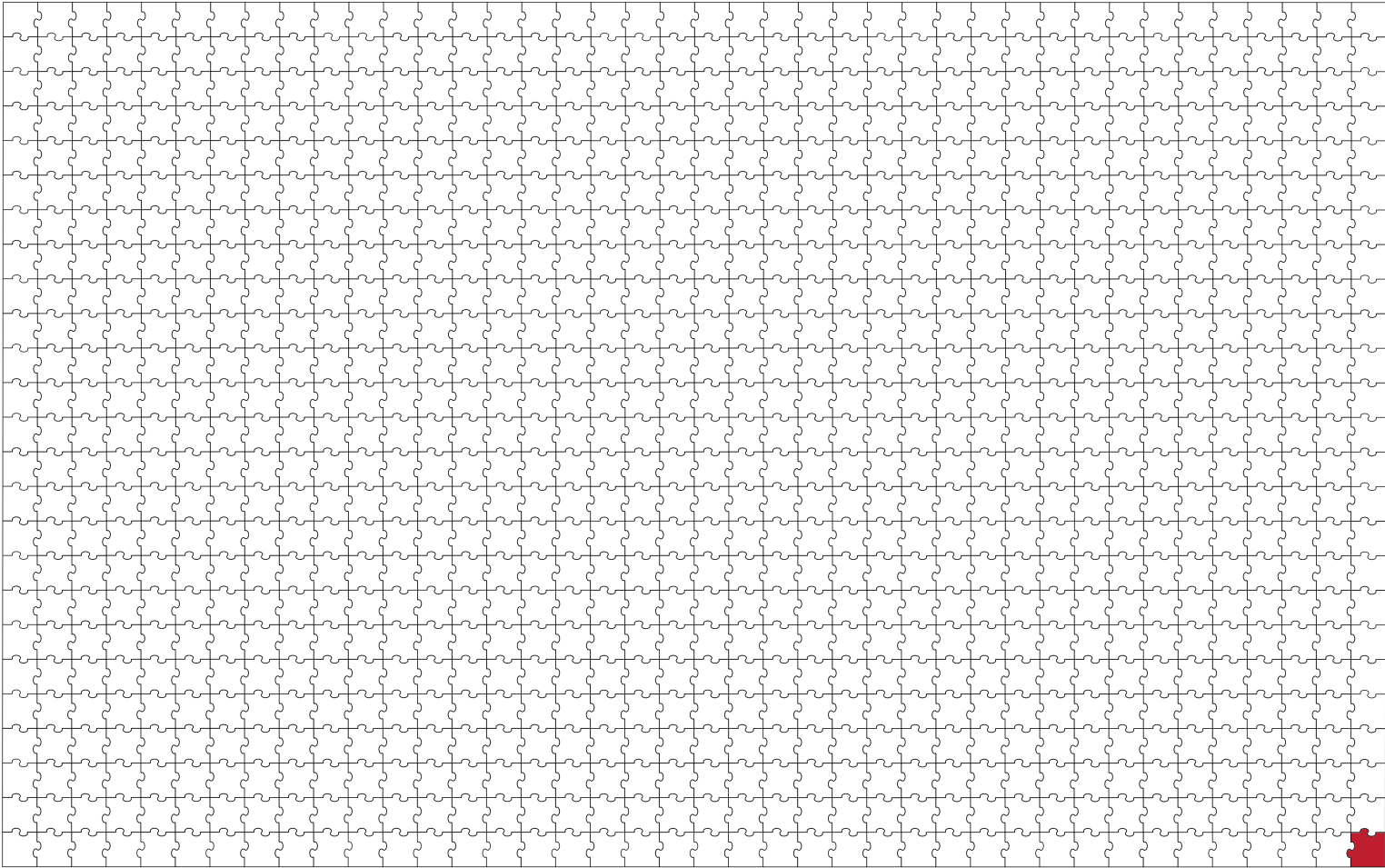
Instructional leadership is the practice of making and implementing operational and improvement decisions in the service of student learning.

Your Decisional Role



- The better information you have, the better decisions you can make
- Most of what you need to know—but don't—happens in classrooms

The 0.1% Problem



Now Is The Time To Learn



- How are our students really doing?
- How is each teacher doing?
- What do we need to focus on next year?
- How much capacity for change will we have?
- What's the current state of a given practice?

Let Go of Feedback



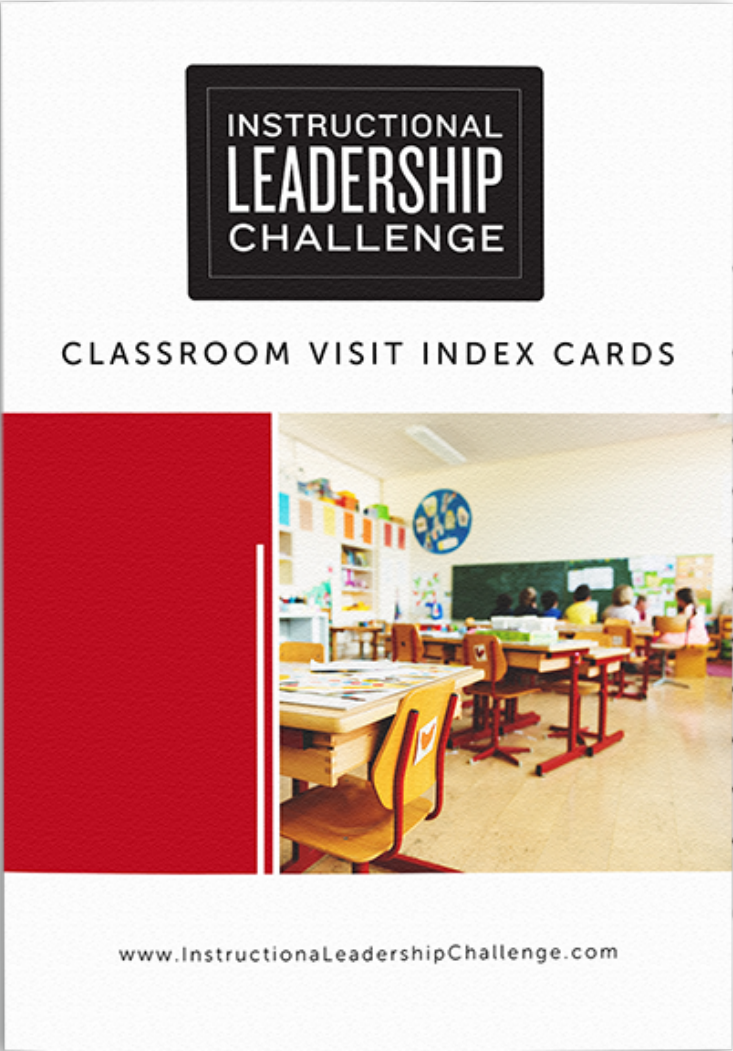
- It's crucial to keep getting into classrooms
- It's OK not to give feedback—just chat
- Focus on your own learning

The Upstream Question



What needs to change,
other than the teacher,
for teaching to improve?

Need Notecards?



Lunch		Prep	
Date	Date	Date	Date

Download:
[PrincipalCenter.com/
notecards-pdf](http://PrincipalCenter.com/notecards-pdf)

Order:
[PrincipalCenter.com/
notecards-free](http://PrincipalCenter.com/notecards-free)

