

Cumberland Trace-

We received a new 6th grade student from another Warren County School. He had been here about a week when he approached me and asked if he could have a leadership job at our school. I asked him what he would be interested in doing. He replied that he had noticed that I did not have any student leaders greeting students when they got out of their cars each morning. He said he *was* experienced because he did that job at his other school and that he would like to do that job at Cumberland Trace. This shows how students expect to be a leader, even when they move to a new school, and how they take initiative to find a leadership role in a new situation. (Principal)

Note from the principal: These students are very responsible and dependable. They take care of this project themselves. No adult tells them to do a reminder on Wednesday or to bring the house to the gym on Thursdays.

TC Cherry-

When I was young, I would hear comments such as "that person was a born leader" or "you can't teach someone to be a leader". This was my initial introduction to leadership as a child. As I've helped implement the Leader in Me at TC Cherry I have found those statements to be completely false! Yes, there are some who are just born leaders, but our school helps all students find the leader inside of them every day.

I have the pleasure of working with students from poverty. Most of these students have every reason to fail school and to fail in life. As we've started our Leader in Me implementation, we are starting to see these students find reasons to succeed. I feel that started with our school expanding our definition of leadership.

The Leader in Me allowed our entire school to see leadership from a different perspective. Leaders are not always those who are out in front of people speaking or always seen. Most leadership roles take places in many different forms- the role model, the peer tutor, the computer operator, etc. Having all leadership roles allow students to become a part of something greater than them. When you feel a part of something successful, success becomes the standard. I find great joy in helping students find success- finding the leader in me! (Principal)