

High School Principal Interview Questions
Draft Form
February, 2012

1. Tell us about professional background and administrative experience; include your interest in this position.
2. If selected for this position, how will you go about selecting an assistant principal? (slight variation on this for the other candidate, how would you go about building a positive relationship with the AP)
3. What are the one or two things you would set for yourself as immediate or short term goals?
4. How would you go about working to improve the academic performance of the HS and move the teachers away from their high failure rates without “lowering academic standards”?
5. How do you bring out the excellence in teaching staff and how do you deal with mediocrity?
6. Could you talk to us about how you maintain your own personal professional development and what was the last thing you read that has shaped your professional practice?
7. How would you work to enhance the climate at the high school or building a team with new leadership? I think that the high school has a reputation for some negativity among staff.
8. Differentiated instruction is an area that needs focus at the High School level, what are your experiences with DI and how would you help support teachers in this area?
9. Share an incident that reflects how you handle conflict between staff.
10. Please speak to your views about instructional practices for special needs students.
11. What is the most important task of the principal?
12. Speak about a situation you would handle differently next time? What do you do differently and why?
13. Please share a significant discipline issue that you dealt with that involved the student’s parents. How did you successfully navigate the issue?
14. How do you maintain effective communication with your school community including staff, parents, and others? What means of communication do you rely on most?
15. Talk to us about your decision making process? Whose input do you seek?
16. Describe your three best leadership qualities and describe at least one situation where one of these qualities was exemplified.
17. A teaching assistant in your building comes to you, in confidence, to complain about something a teacher has done. How would you handle it?
18. If you are selected for this position, what are your goals for the start of the school year? What about goals for the remainder of the school year?
19. How would students, staff, and peers describe your personality?
20. How would you describe the appearance of an effective classroom?
21. Outside of school, what are your interests?
22. What makes you an exceptional candidate for this position?
23. What questions do you have for us?