

Equip Them to *Thrive*, Not Just Survive

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What I
Wish
I Knew
at **18**

Houston, we have a problem

- US college completion rankings have dropped from 1 to 19 since 1995!
- Demand for mental health services on campus is soaring
- Teen and young adult unemployment rates are high, in part due to the lack of soft skills (e.g., work ethic, dependability, resilience)
- 36% of college grads regret their major
- Students at risk are even more vulnerable due to lack of modeling, vision, hope, and networking
- We need to help them thrive, not just survive

Every student has a unique
design and destiny ...

What I
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Will they achieve it?



What I
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Or miss it?



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The Pathway to Destiny



Desired Student Outcomes



- Improved leadership and decision-making skills
- Deeper self awareness
- A greater sense of value, hope, and belief
- A more positive vision and roadmap for their lives
- Positioning for career and life success

Curricular Vision



Curricular Vision

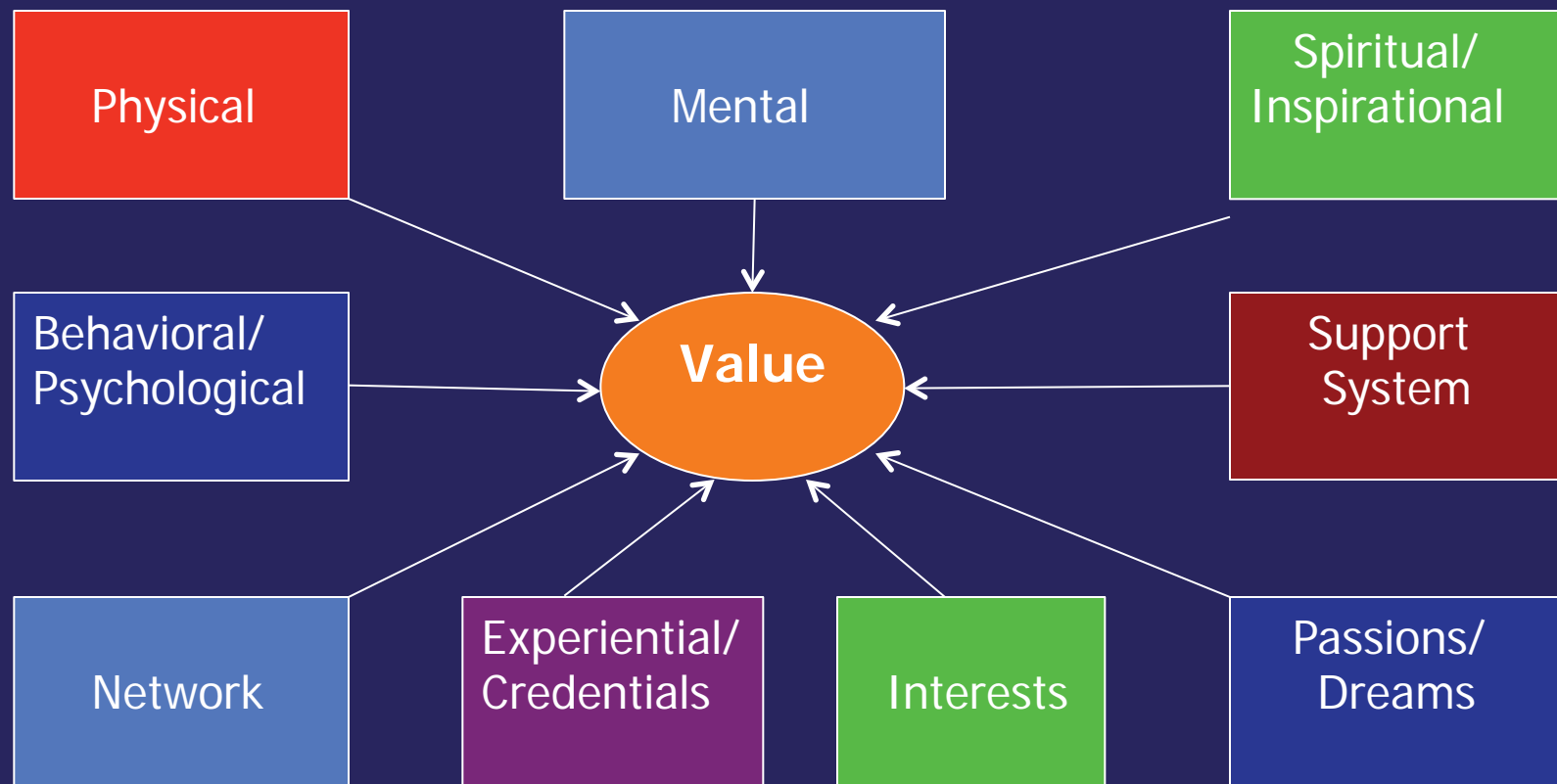


Facilitating Self-Awareness



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Unlocking Assets, Revealing Value



Constraints

- “Contra assets”
- Fear of failure
- Lack of self confidence and sense of worth
- Guilt, shame, and discouragement
- Abuse, neglect, unhealthy modeling
- *Remember, today’s constraint may become tomorrow’s inspirational asset!*

Mining Our Treasure



http://www.dennistrittin.com/resources/PersonalBalanceSheet_05-15.pdf

Personal Balance Sheet

- Facilitates **holistic** and **objective** self discovery by identifying assets and constraints
- Inspires hope and vision for the future
- Provides a game plan for personal growth
- Includes perspectives from self and others
- Inspirational, revelational, relevant, and fun!

Sample Lesson

Mine Your Treasure

p. 125/55

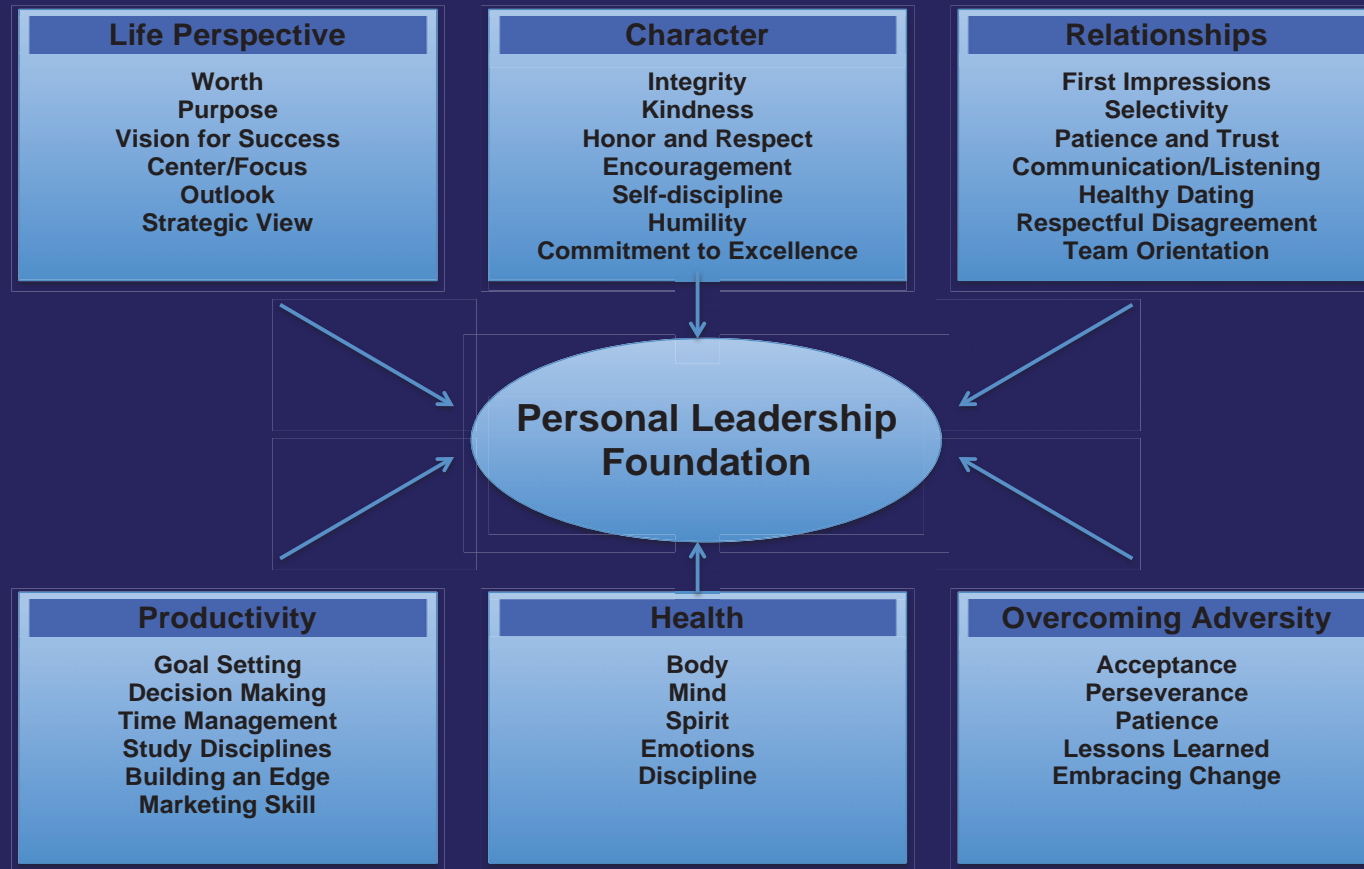
Curricular Vision



“Leadership is action, not position.”

~Donald H. McGannon

Establishing a Personal Leadership Foundation



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What I
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Strategic Perspective and Focus

- *Discover Your Purpose and Inspiration*
- *Don't Define Success by Riches*
- *Plan, Practice, and Persevere to succeed*
- *Diversify Your Life*



Character and Ethics

- *Preserve Your Reputation and Integrity*
- *Give Everything Your Best*
- *Embrace Constructive Feedback*
- *Be an Encourager and Always Look for the Best in People*



Relationships and Communication

- *First Impressions Are Huge*
- *Be Inquisitive When Meeting Others*
- *Connect with People Who Share Your Interests and Values*
- *Steer Clear of Destructive People*
- *How You Say it Can Matter More than What You Say*

**HARD
WORK**
NEVER KILLED ANYONE

Personal Productivity and Discipline

- *Set and Periodically Assess Your Goals*
- *Become a Masterful Decision Maker*
- *Time Is Precious—Use it Wisely*
- *Don't Let Technology Control Your Life*



Overcoming Adversity

- *Recognize adversity is a Fact of Life*
- *Understand adversity can be preparation for greater things & often makes sense later*
- *Take charge of worries & release your pain*
- *Take seemingly insurmountable challenges one step at a time*

Leadership Themes

Self Awareness

Vision

Intentionality

Personal Brand

Positivity

Productivity

Resilience

Communication

Relationship Building

Other Centeredness

Balance

Sample Lessons

- *Discover Your Purpose and Inspiration: p. 9*
- *Connect with Others Who Share Your Interests and Values: p. 40*
- *Set and Periodically Assess Your Goals: p. 53*
- *Adversity Can Be Preparation for Greater Things: p. 128*

Curricular Vision





Career Readiness Components

- Exploring
- Qualifying
- Marketing
- Excelling

MVP Strategy One:

Model the qualities employers value



What Employers Say They're *Getting*

- Entitlement mentality
- Unreliability
- Poor social skills and manners
- Disrespect
- Fear of failure; difficulty handling feedback
- Distractibility

NOW HIRING
MUST HAVE
A CLUE



Here's what they want...



MVP Strategy Two:

Deliver EXCELLENT performance



MVP Strategy Three:

Contribute to your
employer's success



Sample Lesson

Learn to persuasively market yourself

P. 90

College & Career Readiness

Affirmation

Life Skills

Leadership

Hope and Belief

Encouragement

Wisdom



Relationship

Modeling

Commitment

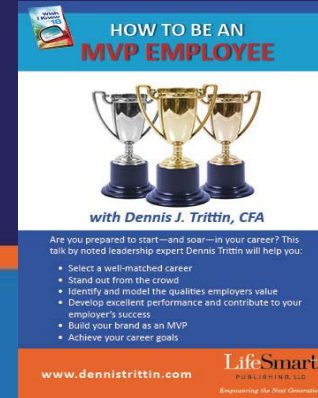
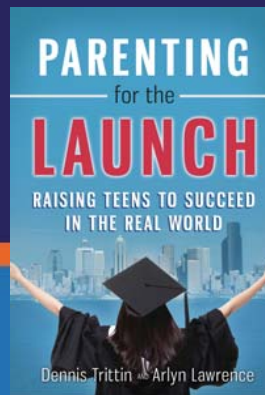
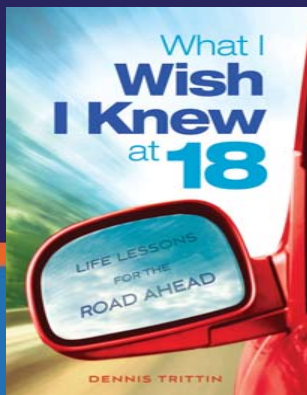
Fun

What I
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LifeSmart Publishing, LLC

Versatile Resources for Educators, Counselors, Mentors, and Families

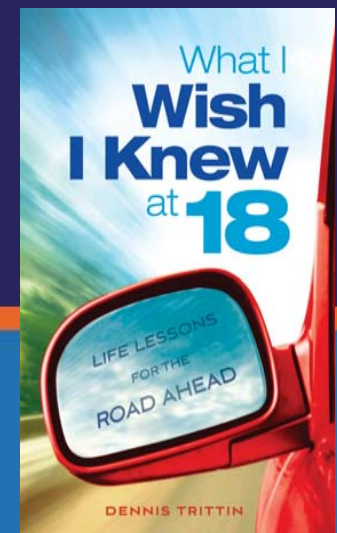
- *What I Wish I Knew at 18*: 109 success pointers for teens
- *Student Guide*: comprehensive Ldrship & Life Skills program
- *Parenting for the Launch*: Game plan and strategies to build strong relationships and position teens for life success



What I
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A Closer Look at WIWIK@18

- Comprehensive vision for successful living
- Personal leadership and soft skills
- Wisdom for key decisions based on the practices of admired, successful leaders
- Relational learning supported by clinical research on what teens need to thrive
- Conversationally and universally written for young and old alike



About our Resources

- Generally for upper high school grades but easily adapted to lower grades
- Used as a core or as supplements
- **Custom training manual for JAG application**
- High level of flexibility for facilitators
- Invaluable, relevant, and interactive content
- Targets key concepts that promote life readiness

Distinctions

- Personal leadership foundation for life
- Broad scope (“one stop shop”) and applications
- Fulfills 23 Search Institute’s 40 Developmental Assets[®], 14 of Key Workplace Readiness Skills (VA), and over 50 FCS National Standards/Competencies
- Acclaimed by educators, business leaders, mentors, and parents

May they soar like eagles
and fulfill their dreams!



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