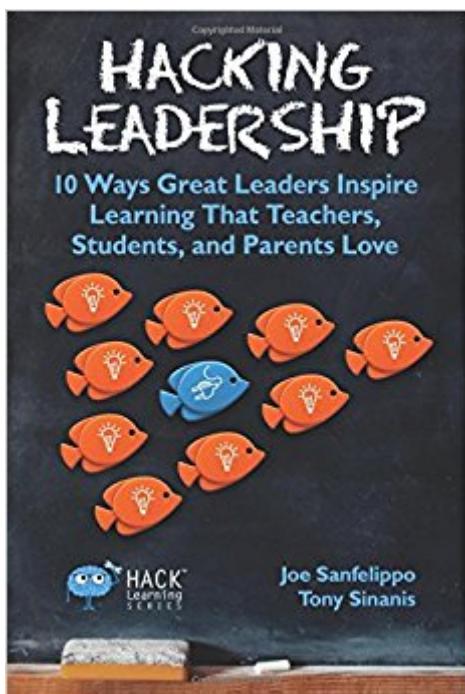


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# Hacking Leadership: 10 Ways Great Leaders Inspire Learning That Teachers, Students, And Parents Love (Hack Learning Series) (Volume 5)



## Synopsis

The best leaders lead from the middleWhen school leaders join teachers, students, and parents in a collaborative effort to improve teaching and learning, achievement soars and schools turn into vibrant communities, filled with enthusiastic members. Teaching and learning feel too much like work. With constant emphasis on higher test scores and teacher accountability, it's easy for schools to become places filled with stress and despair, making teachers dread going to work and students disdain lessons and activities. It's time to bring fun back to school. In *Hacking Leadership*, award-winning school administrators Joe Sanfelippo and Tony Sinanis demonstrate how to increase learning by leaving the office and engaging directly with all teachers and learners. They identify 10 problems with school leadership and provide dynamic, right-now solutions. During this exciting journey toward change, you learn how to:

- Transform yourself from leader to Lead Learner
- Amplify individual staff needs while maintaining a collaborative vision
- Employ unique strategies to break down the walls between home and school
- Empower students and staff to own their space
- Create a culture where "Yes" and "Trust" are the default
- Eliminate initiative overload while encouraging teachers to lead, as well
- Broadcast student voice
- Bring passion into your school
- Embrace technology and social channels in ways rarely considered in education
- Eradicate your deficit mindset
- What makes Hacking Leadership different? Sanfelippo and Sinanis present leadership strategies in ways few people have ever seen. These experienced, thoughtful, decisive leaders, share amazing, real anecdotes that make you feel like you're listening to trusted friends sitting in your living room.
- Then, they provide progressive, courageous, and practical solutions that you and all stakeholders will love, using the popular Hack Learning formula:

  - The Problem (a single leadership issue that needs a Hacker's mentality)
  - The Hack (a surprisingly easy solution that you've likely never considered)
  - What You Can Do Tomorrow (no waiting necessary; you can lead from the middle immediately)
  - Blueprint for Full Implementation (a step-by-step action plan for capacity building)
  - The Hack in Action (yes, people have actually done this)
  - Are you ready to Hack Leadership? Scroll up and grab a copy today.

## Book Information

Series: Hack Learning Series (Book 5)

Paperback: 158 pages

Publisher: Times 10 Publications (June 9, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0986104949

ISBN-13: 978-0986104947

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.4 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (32 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #14,435 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #15 inÂ  Books > Education & Teaching > Schools & Teaching > Education Theory > Administration

## **Customer Reviews**

I have been lucky to call Joe Sanfelippo and Tony Sinanis friends for a few years now. I have watched as they have taken their amazing ideas from theirs schools and districts and amplified them into the world. I have seen how their words have helped others become more human in their leadership, more adept at navigating what it means to be a leader for all, and not just some. So when I was sent a copy of their new book, Hacking Leadership, I knew I wanted to read it, at some point. But a leadership book? What did I really need that for? On Sunday night, as I flew to North Dakota, I decided to glance at it, to get a feel for the book so to speak. 2 hours later, I was done with the book. Mesmerized by the amazing ideas that unfolded in its pages, I was live tweeting quotes from the book, not because they had asked me too, but because these words resonated so deeply with me that I had to share them with others. The next night I added one of their quotes to the reading presentation I was given, ending with their words rather than my own. I am not sure how else to put this; but this book? This book will change education if we let it. What Tony and Joe have done is taken some very common problems in our schools, that seem to cross boundary lines, socioeconomic lines and any other lines that may distinguish our schools another, and given us tangible solutions. Ideas that we can not only implement starting tomorrow, but also a blueprint for long-term change. They make no excuses of the roles of leaders within these problems, which as a teacher, I found refreshing and yet they do not blame, they merely point out the obvious and then offer up solutions right away.

It is incredibly tough to keep up with leadership books. There are so many that provide great ideas to reflect on, and many more that itemize what we as leaders need to do differently to truly make a difference for those we serve. Therefore, for me at least, many of these books tend to meld together, and I often feel as if I'm exposed to the same information, in a slightly different format, or with a slightly different tone. While this repetition is helpful for me (and likely many others), the world of

educational leadership texts can feel somewhat airplane-like; crowded and with few new amenities. And with many more educators writing through publishers or publishing their own works, the number of leadership books out there continues to grow. So, I was incredibly pleased when I read Hacking Leadership to see that Sinanis and Sanfelippo have approached sharing strategies for continuous improvement in a format that I haven't experienced yet. This made the book not only a welcome read, but also one I would highly recommend to colleagues and peers. What works so well in Hacking Leadership is the tiered reflection approach that each 'hack' follows. Basically you start with a 'Big Idea' that helps a reader to question, 'Hmm, could this happen?' Each chapter then drills down to a 'My School/District/Situation' design that leads a reader to reflect, 'Huh, I think this can happen for me.' Chapters then explore an implementation scheme that provides a micro-level progression (call it the 'Here's how to make it happen' design). This works incredibly well as one of the biggest challenges to any leadership book is never the framing of the problem, or the use of anecdotes to showcase potential solutions, but regularly the specific 'How-To.'

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