



## Reading & Resources

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### **Leading Modern Learning: A Blueprint for Vision-Driven Schools**

by Jay McTighe and Greg Curtis, Solution Tree Press, Bloomington, Ind., 2019, 225 pp. with index, \$36.95

The second edition of *Leading Modern Learning* by Jay McTighe and Greg Curtis offers itself up as *A Blueprint for Vision-Driven Schools*, and it lives up to its claim.

Jay McTighe, well-known in the educational field as a writer and professional developer for districts along with his co-author, educational consultant Greg Curtis, present a well-referenced and well-sourced text that walks readers through frameworks and structures designed to shift districts “toward a conception of modern learning.”

Reader be warned, a breezy weekend read this is not. I quickly found myself reaching for a highlighter and sticky notes as I navigated the chapters, picking up and putting down the text often, not for lack of interest, but rather for the need to digest the volume and depth of content being presented. For those looking for detailed, step-by-step guidance in making large scale shifts related to student learning within their organization, this text should be considered.

The book is well-formatted and presented, with chapters that build upon each other, starting with creating a future forward vision and mission, moving through the development of curriculum and instruction and systems for assessment and reporting, and culminating in leadership for modern learning. There are plenty of charts that can be shared and reviewed with members of the educational organization along with ready to use templates for planning.

As the assistant superintendent of instruction in my district, I appreciated the detail presented. Additionally, school site leaders— principals in particular — would benefit from this comprehensive resource. Superintendents, however, may find the text too granular for their needs or interests. With that said, Chapter 7, “Leadership for Modern Learning,” is a worthy read for any school or district leader.

Ultimately, *Leading Modern Learning: A Blueprint for Vision-Driven Schools* is a text that deserves consideration by all leaders, particularly those looking to build and/or shift comprehensive teaching and learning systems within their organization.

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