



WELSmain 2021 - Abstracts

29.09.2021, 14.00 – 16.00 CEST

R12 Distributed Leadership: A Critical Examination of a Discourse Influencing Change – and discussion with professionals more

Prof. Dr. Olivier Perrenoud, Haute école pédagogique du canton de Vaud, Suisse, and Prof. Dr. Romuald Normand, Université de Strasbourg, France

What do we want from distributed leadership? An exploration of its constructions

Phil Woods, Professor, University of Hertfordshire, UK

Moderation in French : Prof. Olivier Perrenoud, Haute école pédagogique du canton de Vaud, and Prof. Romuald Normand, Université de Strasbourg.

An exploration of the different constructions of distributed leadership that can be discerned in its practice and research. Phil Woods will do this through an examination of the problems that distributed leadership is perceived as promising to address. The problem that, for example, a school leader has in mind when developing distributed leadership shapes the way the concept is conceived. This helps to explain why distributed leadership is interpreted in many different ways. There are four kinds of problems that shape how distributed leadership is practised and understood - namely, technical, conceptual, power and values problems. These give rise to four different constructions of distributed leadership. For practitioners such as school leaders, being clear on the problem they want distributed leadership to address is essential. Such clarity helps in understanding the expectations they have and the kind of leadership distribution they need to develop in their educational institution, department or team. Where values of participation, inclusion and social justice are a high priority, development of a democratic form of distributed leadership is likely to be the most appropriate.

The lecture, pre-recorded and subtitled in French, will be followed by a dialogue and response to questions from a pre-selected group of reflective practitioners from professional associations of school leaders. This event is part of the LEAD International Webinar series