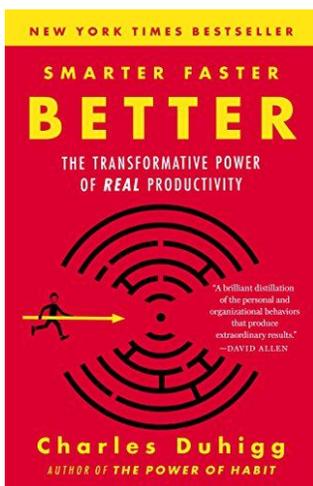


Leadership Development Book Study



Smarter Faster Better: The Transformative Power of Real Productivity
by Charles Duhigg

Overview

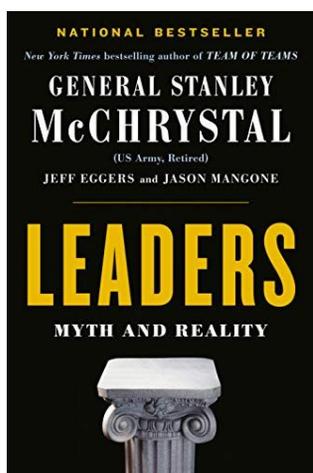
At the core of *Smarter Faster Better* are eight key productivity concepts—from motivation and goal setting to focus and decision making—that explain why some people and companies get so much done. Drawing on the latest findings in neuroscience, psychology, and behavioral economics—as well as the experiences of CEOs, educational reformers, four-star generals, FBI agents, airplane pilots, and Broadway songwriters—this painstakingly researched book explains that the most productive people, companies, and organizations don't merely act differently.

They view the world, and their choices, in profoundly different ways.

Why should I read it?

Full of research and plenty of real-life examples, *Smarter Faster Better* revisits a lot of concepts we think we already have figured out. For the sake of transforming how we work inside out, Duhigg asks readers to reconsider:

- How we think about goal-setting, and “stretching” SMART goals even further
- Our approach to productivity, and how we've created a productivity culture that leads to “cognitive closure”
- What goes into shaping a team – how the teams work together is more important than who, exactly, is on the team
- How we take control of our situations, and whether we're able to connect all our actions - even the smallest of them - with our overall purpose



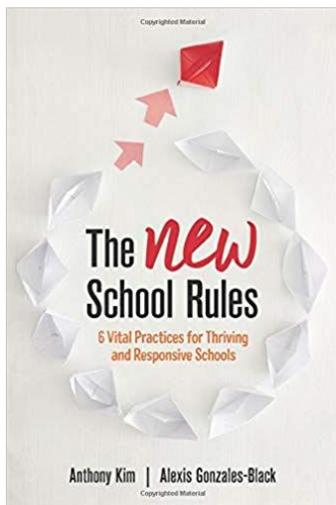
Leaders: Myth and Reality
by General Stanley McChrystal

Overview

General Stan McChrystal, the author of best-selling *Team of Teams*, partnered with co-authors Jeff Eggers and Jay Mangone to explore what leadership really means, exposing and debunking the many myths that surround the concept of leadership. They focus on thirteen great leaders, showing that the lessons we commonly draw from their lives are seldom the correct ones. He uses their stories to explore how leadership works in practice and to challenge the myths that complicate our thinking about this critical topic.

Why should I read it?

In this follow-up to his bestsellers *My Share of the Task* and *Team of Teams*, McChrystal profiles thirteen famous leaders from a wide range of eras and fields—from corporate CEOs to politicians and revolutionaries. He also profiles pairs of unlikely leaders from diverse eras and fields, showing that leaders often use dramatically different tactics to achieve similar results. *Leaders* will help you take stock of your own leadership, whether you're part of a small team or responsible for an entire nation.



The NEW School Rules: 6 Vital Practices for Thriving and Responsive Schools
by Alexis Gonzales-Black and Anthony Kim

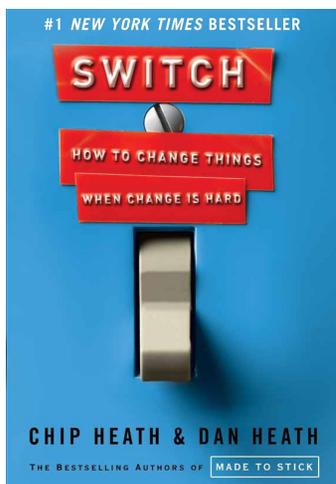
Overview

The NEW School Rules: 6 Vital Practices for Thriving and Responsive Schools is both a practical guide for how to improve the practices of schools and districts as well as a thoughtful examination of the self-imposed barriers that can get in the way of getting work done in organizations. Designed to be actionable, the book offers leaders the ability to implement immediate change in order to have a lasting impact. While many books in education focus on curriculum, budgeting, technology or talent, *The NEW School Rules* focuses on processes, people and organizations.

Why should I read it?

Schools, in order to be nimble and stay relevant and impactful, need to abandon the rigid structures designed for less dynamic times. *The NEW School Rules* expands cutting-edge organizational design and modern management techniques into an operating system for empowering schools with the same agility and responsiveness so vital in the business world.

- 6 simple rules create a unified vision of responsiveness among educators
- Real life case studies illustrate responsive techniques implemented in a variety of educational demographics
- 15 experiments guide school and district leaders toward increased responsiveness in their faculty and staff



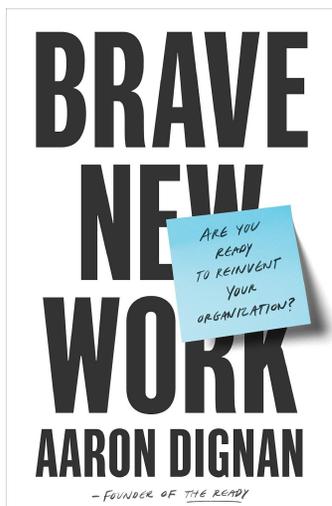
Switch: How to Change Things When Change is Hard
by Chip Heath and Dan Heath

Overview

Switch shows that successful changes follow a pattern, a pattern you can use to make the changes that matter to you, whether your interest is in changing the world or changing your waistline.

Why should I read it?

In a compelling, story-driven narrative, the Heaths bring together decades of counterintuitive research in psychology, sociology, and other fields to shed new light on how we can effect transformative change.



Brave New Work: Are You Ready to Reinvent Your Organization?
by Aaron Dignan

Overview

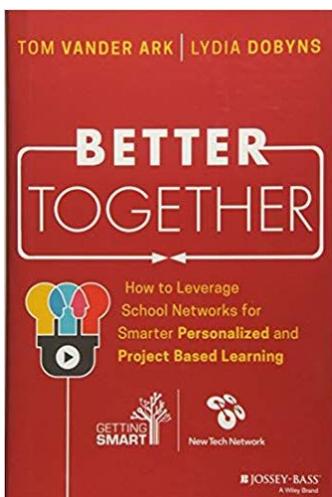
Aaron Dignan has found that nearly everyone, from Wall Street to Silicon Valley, points to the same frustrations: lack of trust, bottlenecks in decision making, siloed functions and teams, meeting and email overload, tiresome budgeting, short-term thinking, and more.

Is there any hope for a solution? Haven't countless business gurus promised the answer, yet changed almost nothing about the way we work? That's because we fail to recognize that organizations aren't machines to be predicted and controlled. They're complex human systems full of potential waiting to be released.

Why should I read it?

Readers will:

- Get a look into how our way of working came to be – and why that way no longer works for us
- Learn exactly how deeply this way of working has become embedded in our teams, and how interconnected we really are across our organizations
- See strategies for change which account for how complicated our teams and organizations really are



Better Together: How to Leverage School Networks for Smarter Personalized and Project Based Learning
by Tom Vander Ark and Lydia Dobyns

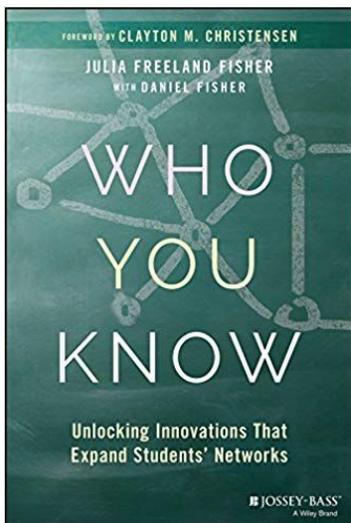
Overview

Better Together presents a tour through one of the modern era's most important educational innovations, and provides smart strategy for working optimally within the school network sphere. There are more than 50 high-quality scaled charter networks in the U.S.; most share a learning model, professional supports, and—increasingly—platform tools. Although these charter schools get most of the attention, there are over a dozen other networks that connect district schools and provide design principles, curriculum materials, technology tools, and professional learning opportunities to streamline school improvement and help build great new schools from scratch. This book details some of the many success stories, and includes expert analysis of learning models, strategies, and innovations that are making quality scalable and helping schools produce more positive student outcomes.

Why should I read it?

Both teachers and administrators will:

- Examine proven learning models for scaled school networks
- Explore the latest innovations for more effective collaborations
- Read success stories from school networks across the country
- Learn smart strategies for optimizing the educational network experience



Who You Know: Unlocking Innovations That Expand Students' Networks
By Julia Freeland Fisher with Daniel Fisher

Overview

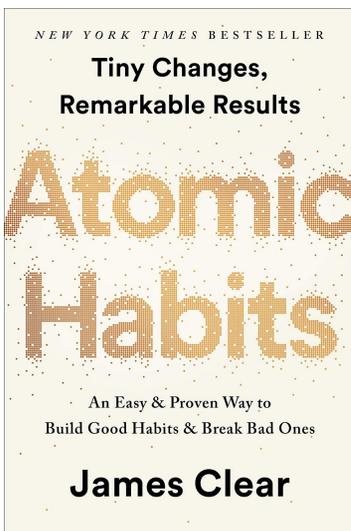
Relationships matter. *Who You Know* explores this simple idea to give teachers and school administrators a fresh perspective on how to break the pattern of inequality in American classrooms. It reveals how schools can invest in the power of relationships to increase social mobility for their students.

Discussions about inequality often focus on achievement gaps. But opportunity is about more than just test scores. Opportunity gaps are a function of not just *what* students know, but *who* they know. This book explores the central role that relationships play in young people's lives, and provides guidance for a path forward.

Why should I read it?

Who You Know explores how schools can become hubs for next-generation learning and connecting. With the book, readers will:

- Explore real-world examples and data
- Integrate student support models that increase access to caring adults in students' lives
- Invest in learning models that strengthen teacher-student relationships
- Employ emerging technologies that expand students' networks to experts and mentors from around the world



Atomic Habits: An Easy and Proven Way to Build Good Habits and Break Bad Ones
By James Clear

Overview

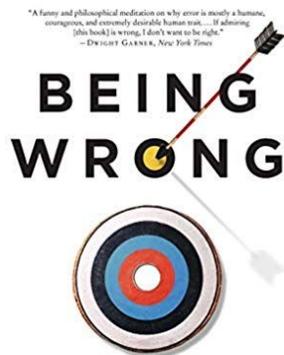
No matter your goals, *Atomic Habits* offers a proven framework for improving--every day. James Clear, one of the world's leading experts on habit formation, reveals practical strategies that will teach you exactly how to form good habits, break bad ones, and master the tiny behaviors that lead to remarkable results.

If you're having trouble changing your habits, the problem isn't you. The problem is your system. Bad habits repeat themselves again and again not because you don't want to change, but because you have the wrong system for change. You do not rise to the level of your goals. You fall to the level of your systems. Here, you'll get a proven system that can take you to new heights.

Why should I read it?

In the book, you will learn how to:

- Build a system for getting 1% better every day.
- Break your bad habits and stick to good ones.
- Avoid the common mistakes most people make when changing habits.
- Overcome a lack of motivation and willpower.
- Develop a stronger identity and believe in yourself.
- Make time for new habits (even when life gets crazy).
- Design your environment to make success easier.
- Make tiny, easy changes that deliver big results.
- Get back on track when you get off course.
- And most importantly, how to put these ideas into practice in real life.



Adventures in the Margin of Error

KATHRYN SCHULZ

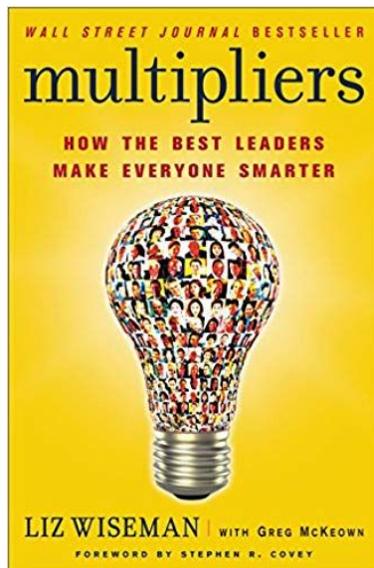
Being Wrong: Adventures in the Margin of Error
By Kathryn Schulz

Overview

To err is human. Yet most of us go through life assuming (and sometimes insisting) that we are right about nearly everything, from the origins of the universe to how to load the dishwasher. In *Being Wrong*, journalist Kathryn Schulz explores why we find it so gratifying to be right and so maddening to be mistaken. Drawing on thinkers as varied as Augustine, Darwin, Freud, Gertrude Stein, Alan Greenspan, and Groucho Marx, she shows that error is both a given and a gift; one that can transform our worldviews, our relationships, and ourselves.

Why should I read it?

Coining the term “wrongology”, Schulz talks about how being wrong can be a good thing in the grand scheme, and how we often learn more from our mistakes than our successes. As a journalist, Schulz has collected many real stories of errors large and small, and the impact they had on the people involved. However, she also delves into why we are wrong – and why we usually think we are right. She sheds light on the importance of being able to acknowledge when we are wrong, a crucial quality in any leader.



Multipliers
By Liz Wiseman with Greg McKeown

Overview

We’ve all had experience with two dramatically different types of leaders. The first type drains intelligence, energy, and capability from the people around them and always needs to be the smartest ones in the room. These are the idea killers, the energy sappers, the diminishers of talent and commitment.

On the other side of the spectrum are leaders who use their intelligence to amplify the smarts and capabilities of the people around them. When these leaders walk into a room, light bulbs go off over people’s heads; ideas flow and problems get solved. These are the leaders who inspire employees to stretch themselves to deliver results that surpass expectations. These are the Multipliers. And the world needs more of them, especially now, when leaders are expected to do more with less.

Why should I read it?

In this engaging and highly practical book, leadership expert Liz Wiseman explores the two leadership styles, Diminishers and Multipliers, persuasively showing how Multipliers can have a resoundingly positive and profitable effect on organizations – getting more done with fewer resources, developing and attracting talent, and cultivating new ideas and energy to drive organizational change and innovation.