



## Principals Leadership Academy of Arizona Course Outline: School Year 2026-2027

The Principals Leadership Academy of Arizona (PLAA) was established in 2009 in response to a **growing need for an innovative approach to training emerging leaders and supporting principals in their first year(s) of school leadership**. PLAA is open to anyone interested in school leadership, with a focus on individuals identified by districts or schools as on a principal track and new principals in their first year(s) of school leadership.

### Course of Study:

PLAA content is based on the **National Educational Leadership Preparedness (NELP) Standards** ([NELP: http://www.npbea.org/](http://www.npbea.org/)). All sessions are facilitated by Arizona-based A+ School of Excellence principals, teachers, and educational leaders who are exemplary in their fields. **PLAA is grounded in best practices and strategies that have been tried and tested in Arizona, by Arizona educators.**

### Course Schedule and Topics

Session	Date	Topics	Location
#1	8/22/2026	Four Highly Effective Leadership Traits of School Principals, Overview of NELP Program Recognition Standards, Finding Balance in the Complex Role of School Leadership, A+ Principal Mentoring Experience	AEF HQ Phoenix
#2	9/19/2026	Collaborative School Environments, Enhancing School Climate, Interventions for Student Success, Transforming Vision to Excellence	Tucson
#3	October 2026	A+ School of Excellence Mentor Site Visits	Arizona A+ Schools
#4	11/7/2026	<i>The Situational Leader</i> study session, Bringing About & Sustaining Change as a School Leader, Overview of ASU Helios Decision Center, Mock Principal Interview Prep	Phoenix
#5	12/5/2026	Navigating Today's Media in Public Education, Artificial Intelligence, Mock Principal Interviews/Panel Discussion	AEF HQ Phoenix
#6	1/9/2027	Data-Driven Decision Making, Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) & Restorative Practices, Creating and Maintaining a Positive School Culture	Tucson
#7	2/6/2027	The State of Education in Arizona, Growing Your Leadership, Avoiding Education/School Legal Pitfalls	AEF HQ Phoenix
#8	3/6/2027	When Values Drive Meaningful Strategic Change, Habits of a Systems Thinker, Value in School Climate & Culture	Tucson
#9	4/10/27	Career Literacy Skills/Portrait of a Graduate, Complexity of School Budgets, 2027 Teacher of the Year, Graduation	AEF HQ Phoenix

**\*All registered participants will receive a detailed PLAA course syllabus & content overview during Session #1.**