Beat The Odds School Leadership Academy
The Center for the Future of Arizona (CFA) administers the Beat The Odds School Leadership Academy. In partnership with the National Institute for School Leadership (NISL), CFA works with traditional public school districts and charter school networks to provide executive leadership training to current and aspiring principals across the state.

Facilitators deliver a rigorous professional development program for enrolled participants designed to enable school transformation. The results are better quality schools and better outcomes for all student learners in every community.

Impact for Arizona
CFA recognizes the critical link between a strong principal and student success. Great schools require great school leaders.

Leadership training is a key ingredient to improving the quality of education in Arizona. Since 2007, CFA has provided training and mentoring to more than 200 school leaders. The BTO academy is the continuation of that commitment and draws on the best practices of Arizona’s high-performing schools to show principals models of success that will have an impact in their schools.

Benefits for Arizona Schools:
- Prepares school leaders to lead for excellence and equity
- Closes student achievement gaps, creates culture of high expectations
- Enhances teacher recruitment, retention, quality

Source: Leithwood et al. 2004; Waters, Marzano & McNulty 2003

25% Percentage of impact principals have on student achievement
Beat the Odds School Leadership Academy

Enrolling School Leaders Now

Strong Partnership
The Beat The Odds School Leadership Academy is a partnership between the Center for the Future of Arizona (CFA) and the National Institute for School Leadership (NISL). The collaboration brings together CFA’s successful Arizona-based principal mentorship program with NISL’s nationally recognized Executive Development Program (EDP) for school leaders.

Training Delivered by Proven Education Leaders
Our BTO academy facilitators understand education in Arizona and are recognized in the field. All are NISL certified. Facilitators include Rodel Exemplary Principals, National Blue Ribbon Principals, traditional public school district and charter school network leaders, A for Arizona leaders, Beat The Odds Mentors, A+ School of Excellence Principals and Teach for America alumni.

Program Curriculum:
- Nationally researched, evidenced-based and locally delivered in a cohort model
- Improves the practice of leadership, transforms instruction and student achievement in schools
- Coursework spans strategic leadership, standards-based education systems and instructional practices in math, English, history and science
- Consists of 12 two-day units, delivered in 12 to 15 months
- Bridged with online coursework, readings and job-embedded application of key concepts

CONTACT
Katy Cavanagh
Director, Educational Leadership
Center for the Future of Arizona
katy.cavanagh@arizonafuture.org  |  480.729.0344

Learn more about the critical link between a strong principal and student success at arizonafuture.org/bto

The Center for the Future of Arizona is a nonpartisan, nonprofit “do tank” that combines research with collaborative partnerships and initiatives that drive the state’s economic prosperity, quality of life and civic health, and create a better future for all Arizonans.