

Significance of the Study

1 The study is significant to the field of education in that it builds upon the available body of knowledge relating teacher morale and principal leadership. 2 There have been several studies that look at the relationship between teacher morale and principal leadership. 3 The present study focuses on a geographically unique school system with 4 unique characteristics and challenges. The school system has experienced and continues to experience enormous increases in enrollment and the urban sprawl from Atlanta. Many challenges to keep up with the growth including facilities and the hiring of staff have been present for this school system. This study also focuses on the middle schools of this school district to 5 provide an in-depth look into this challenging level of education. 6 Much of the present research focuses on elementary education, high school education, or a combination of levels of education.

7 In addition to the significance for the field, the study is important to the school system where the study was performed. 8 The study can lead to improvements in the principal preparation program in order to raise the morale level for teachers. 9 With the demands on this growing school system to hire and retain teachers, this sort of principal preparation program improvement could be very beneficial.