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Kindezi Academy awarded grant to implement leadership training program for students

Indianapolis – Kindezi Academy @ Joyce Kilmer 69, Indianapolis' newest Innovation Network School, has been selected from hundreds of schools across the country to receive a grant from Leader.org to implement *The Leader in Me*, FranklinCovey's whole-school transformation process for teaching 21st century leadership principles and skills to K-12 students.

Leader.org is a private grant-making charity that provides programs and services that develop students' leadership skills and character in K-12 schools nationwide.

"At Kindezi, we fundamentally believe all children are leaders and have unique capacity to change the world," said [Shanae Staples, founding school leader of Kindezi Academy](#). "We are thrilled to implement *The Leader in Me* process in our school and to develop a culture of shared leadership among students, teachers, families and community."

"Through this grant, we are pleased to recognize Kindezi Academy's preparation and commitment to developing generations of great leaders," said [Boyd Craig, Leader.org's chairman & CEO](#). "We look forward to being a supportive partner in the years to come and seeing this school, its teachers, students and families achieve the success they seek."

This grant was made possible by funding provided by the Panda Charitable Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Panda Restaurant Group, the world leader in Asian dining experiences and parent company of over 1,900 Panda Express, Panda Inn and Hibachi-San restaurants.

"Panda founders Andrew and Peggy Cherng's generosity to the communities their restaurants serve is having a deep, positive impact on hundreds of thousands of America's underserved children," Craig added.

"I am thrilled to see Kindezi Academy starting its journey with *The Leader in Me*," said [Sean Covey, FranklinCovey Education Practice Leader](#). "These students will have the opportunity to learn and apply leadership and life skills, such as responsibility, social etiquette, teamwork, communication, creative thinking and problem solving, to name a few. Learning these skills now not only will help them succeed in school, but in every area of their lives."

The Leader in Me also teaches students how to become self-reliant, take initiative, plan ahead, set and track goals, do their homework, prioritize their time, manage their emotions, be considerate of others, express their viewpoint persuasively, resolve conflicts, find creative solutions, value differences and live a balanced life.

Kindezi is one of nearly 3,000 schools worldwide in over 50 countries implementing *The Leader in Me*. As the program is implemented over the next five years, it will help to shape the school culture and climate students experience on a daily basis, as well as teach them the skills they need to be college and career ready.

For more information on *The Leader in Me*, visit www.TheLeaderinMe.org.
For more information about [Leader.org's](http://Leader.org) charitable mission, visit www.Leader.org

