**What kind of leader do you believe you are?**

I’d like to think of myself as a transformational leader. a leader who likes to inspire employees and encourage them to be their best. I don’t like to tell people what to do but to lead them to the decisions. I find when my team believes in the work to be done, they are more engaged. When ideas come from my team, they are more vested in the outcome and success. No different than a teacher who inspires their students to be their best. I like to way the balance, engage with my team and connect with them on a personal level and emotional level when required.

**>> How do you make connections with others?** Growing up, I would describe myself as an introvert, give me a good book, give me my assignment and I will go and just get it done, but as I grow and matured I realized I could get more done by reaching out and working with others. And so for me its networking. Reaching out and simply saying hello, how are you? if you are in a new environment find someone who you would like to talk with, perhaps you can start with hey, great shows, or something more meaningful such as the topic of conversation. For me, its simply starting with hello. Sometimes saying I’m really nervous networking helps and that disarms the other person. Don’t go asking for help or looking for a job but look to build a connection. Build a relationship that is memorable.  
>> \*  
**>> What is the benefit of creating connections to your community?**

Connections in the community are critical because you will at some point need these connections when you are applying for a job, internship or possible even on your University or college application. These connections could turn into a great referee   
>> \*  
>> **What is the importance of serving our community at this time?**

We have never seen a disruption like this in our lifetime and EVERYONE is impacted. It doesn’t matter your race, gender or financial status we are all impacted and so its critical that we remember the human connection and look out for each other. You don’t need to anything extra ordinary, simply acts of kindness, looking out for each other, calling to say hello will turn out to be extra-ordinary. During the most difficult times, the most beautiful things will  
>> \*  
>> **How has the community impacted you during COVID?**  
>> \*The community has definitely stepped up to support each other come together in solidarity for the greater good. WE saw this last year with the BLM marches in Shelburne and Orangeville. We saw generous donations from individuals and organizations in the community donating, masks, PPE’s sanitizers and food to homes and front line workers. Community members reaching out to me personally to simply check in.

>> **From a business standpoint, how has the community impacted you  
>> during COVID?**  
>> \*  
**From a business standpoint, what are the challenges you face and how do you overcome them?**  
>> \*  
>> How much has hope mattered?  
>> \*  
>> What do you do that makes you a leader in the community?  
>> \*  
>> What do you look for in the people you work with?  
>> \*  
>> What do you look for in the people you hire?  
>> \*  
>> How would you describe the community in your workplace? What  
>> standards do you try to uphold?  
>> \*  
>> How do you motivate your team to create a productive work  
>> environment?  
>> \*  
>> How have you responded to change? Why is that important?  
>> \*  
>> Have your community values changed since March? How have you coped  
>> with the changing nature of work?  
>> \*  
>> What leadership qualities do you seek in others?  
>> \*  
>> Why is it important to create ties to our community and our people /  
>> bring people together?  
>> \*  
>> Why is it important to create connections with others?  
>> \* Overall… what final words of advice or guidance could you leave  
>> us – young leaders – with?  
>  This was simply to offer some ideas, and you may take the  
> presentation / conversation wherever you wish! I think that everything  
> you would have had in mind to speak about would be perfect.  
>  
>  > -------------------------  
>  
> From: [alethia@dufferincountycba.org](mailto:alethia@dufferincountycba.org) <[alethia@dufferincountycba.org](mailto:alethia@dufferincountycba.org)>  
> Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 1:12 PM  
> To: Corin Mercey <[Corin.Mercey@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:Corin.Mercey@ugdsb.on.ca)>  
> Cc: Jane Godbold <[Jane.Godbold@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:Jane.Godbold@ugdsb.on.ca)>; Pat Hamilton  
> <[pat.hamilton@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:pat.hamilton@ugdsb.on.ca)>; Janine Grin <[Janine.Grin@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:Janine.Grin@ugdsb.on.ca)>  
> Subject: Re: Join Us Virtually?  
>  
> Hi Corin,  
> Thank you for reaching out.  I would love to speak with your students.  
> Please let me know what dates/time you had in mind so I can update my  
> calendar accordingly.  (please give me a couple options).  
> Please also, let me know which direction you would like me to go  
> in...i  
> can discuss my professional journey (my 9-5) or i can focus on my  
> community involvement or both?  I think the students would be able to  
> gather rich information from both, but let me know.  
>  
> Looking forward to hearing from you.  
>  
> Regards,  
> Alethia  
>  
> On 2021-01-25 14:19, Corin Mercey wrote:  
>> Hello Alethia,  
>>  
>>  I hope that you and your family are well, safe, and healthy.  
>>  My name is Corin Mercey and I am reaching out on behalf of  
>> Orangeville District Secondary School. I am currently in my third  
> year  
>> of teaching, and I have the opportunity to teach the Business  
>> Leadership Course here at ODSS. We are trying some new things this  
>> year, including looking at our community and initiatives through a  
>> diversity and inclusion lens.  
>>  
>>  Since hosting guest speakers and travelling outside of the school  
> is  
>> not a reality at the moment, I am reaching out to some fantastic  
>> community leaders to speak to my class virtually, as I am very eager  
>> to promote a community & connection centered course and would love  
> to  
>> know if you would be interested in being a part of our "Community  
>> Build" week? This is a week designed for leaders to share their  
>> perspective & expertise on just how much positive community  
>> connections matter from a Leadership, Business, and School  
> standpoint.  
>>  
>>  
>> I absolutely love your vision, would love to learn more, and think  
>> your message would resonate very well with my students. I teach in