I would highly recommend the Balancing Management and Leadership course to leaders in schools.

I was searching for professional learning opportunities for team members when I happened upon the series of four sessions that can be completed to achieve an Advanced Diploma of Management through Independent Schools Victoria. I booked into the first available module left for the year. While I had recently completed my Masters in School Leadership, the course happened to be the Balancing Management and Leadership. I wasn’t jumping out of my skin to attend but thought I would work my way through the four sessions that make up the program.

At no point over the three days we spent with the presenter, Justine Coleman, did I regret my attendance. Justine is worth seeing and was fantastic! She led us through the OPENUP Leadership model by utilising and modelling each of the competencies and behaviours. Justine obviously has a wealth of experience and imparted this with enthusiasm, humour and short, sharp, relevant anecdotes. She managed to draw together the most pertinent leadership and management information succinctly, yet comprehensively.

The goals and objectives of the course were clearly outlined and delivered. There were opportunities to work collaboratively in pairs and teams as well as time to reflect individually. The computer simulation provoked discussions that were highly beneficial. Justine set clear aims for each section of the simulation, which allowed a focus and accompanying analysis. She was a highly effective presenter.

If you have the opportunity to participate in this course and work with Justine – jump at it!