FIGURE 1. Applying the Implementing for Sustainability Framework

DIMENSIONS	EXAMPLES IN PRINCIPAL PIPELINES			
Ensuring Strategic Alignment	Develop, articulate, and adjust the pipeline and its domains to align with core district priorities and initiatives.	Make explicit that pipelines are part of strategic plans and initiatives; pipelines align with and meet specific district goals and priorities.	Articulate the need for pipelines as an evidence-based approach to hire, support, and retain high-quality leaders.	
Communicating Clarity in Intent	Articulate a commitment to pipelines by the superintendent and senior district leadership.	Communicate the pipeline is a priority throughout the district.	Develop awareness of the goals and benefits of the pipeline across the organization.	Share plans on how pipelines will reach the outcomes/goals (who, what, when, where).
Aligning Institutional Elements and Supports	Assign leaders with decision-making authority and capabilities to the domains of the pipeline.	Foster cross- departmental coordination and ownership of pipeline priorities (de-siloing).	Dedicate time as a formal duty to personnel for pipelines, rather than add to current responsibilities.	Review and revise internal policies and practices to align with pipeline goals (e.g., hiring practices).
Maintaining Priority	Incorporate members across the district into the pipeline and its development.	Communicate across the district to demonstrate the focus on and importance of effective school leaders.	Set clear goals and priorities and continually assesses progress toward those goals.	

Source: Adapted from Goldring, E., Rubin, M., & James McGraw, K. (2025). Implementing for sustainability: Principal pipelines in four districts. The Wallace Foundation.

Copyright © 2025 Goldring et al. Used with permission.