

LEADERSHIP KIT

BOOK DESCRIPTIONS

Powerful Partnerships: A Handbook for Principals Mentoring Assistant Principals by Garry Bloom and Martin L. Krovetz

By Gary Bloom and Martin L. Krovetz
Corwin Press ISBN 978-14129-2771-0

Nurture the development of future school leaders through effective principal–assistant principal partnerships!

Assistant principals represent the next generation of school principals, so it is critical that schools and districts address the professional development of these key administrators. In this essential resource, Gary Bloom and Martin L. Krovetz demonstrate how principals and assistant principals can use their collaborative relationships to prepare assistant principals for future leadership roles.

This resource views the partnership between principals and assistant principals as a coaching-based relationship that benefits students and schools. Through this apprenticeship approach, assistant principals receive the mentoring and support they need to become tomorrow's school leaders, and principals benefit from a more effective leadership team. The authors offer discussion questions, activities for the assistant principal, and shared activities that help principals and their assistants to:

- Develop a shared vision for their relationship and their school
- Design a plan for communication and professional development
- Build assistants' skills in school management, instructional leadership, and personnel management

Addressing a critical yet frequently neglected topic, *Powerful Partnerships* helps principals mentor assistant principals, promote their professional development, and prepare them for challenging new positions in the future!

Mentoring Matters: A Practical Guide to Learning-Focused Relationships, 2nd Edition

By Laura Liptin and Bruce Wellman
Miravia ISBN 0-9665022-2-1

An invaluable reference for mentors of beginning teachers, this guide offers structures, strategies and tools for developing expertise in teaching. Sections include specific information about the mentor's role, the needs of beginning teachers and the attributes of effective mentor-protégé relationships. Tips for maximizing time and attention, an extensive resource section and blackline masters to support developmental interactions make this book a must-have for mentors.

Educational Leadership: Key Challenges and Ethical Tensions

By Patrick Duignan
Cambridge University Press ISBN-13: 9780521685122

Educational Leadership is a major research book on contemporary leadership challenges for educational leaders. In this groundbreaking new work, educational leaders in schools, including teachers, are provided with ways of analyzing and resolving common but complex leadership challenges. Ethical tensions inherent in these challenges are identified; tools for their analysis presented and explained; and clear and practitioner-focused guidelines for ethical decision making, in the form of ten practical steps, recommended. Included in this discussion is a jargon-free description and explanation of ethical theories and principles. Written by a leading researcher in the field, and recipient of the Australian Council for Educational Leadership Gold Medal for excellence, *Educational Leadership: Key Challenges and Ethical Tensions* is an important book that provides a practical framework for analyzing ethical tensions and presenting, explaining, and applying ethical concepts and theories to real-life situations in practitioner language.

- A major research book on contemporary leadership challenges and inherent ethical dilemmas
- A clear and practitioner-focused set of guidelines/methods for making decisions that involve ethical dilemmas. It includes a practical, jargon-free discussion of ethical theories and principles
- Recommends that preparation and development programs for leaders needs to focus on leadership capabilities as well as leadership competencies

School Leadership That Works

By Robert J. Marzano, Timothy Waters and Brian A. McNulty

McREL ISBN 978-1-4166-0227-9

Unlike many other books about school leadership, this one blends practical advice and research. Most books on the topic address one or the other, but not both. We believe that, at this particular time in the history of K–12 education in the United States, a book like this one is not only useful but also necessary because calls for research-based practices have never been as strong as they are now. Similarly, calls for school leadership that translates into enhanced student achievement have never been as strong. To answer both calls we conducted a meta-analysis of the research on school leadership spanning 35 years and found studies from 1978 to 2001 that met our selection criteria. Additionally, we conducted a factor analysis of a survey derived from our meta-analysis and administered to more than 650 building principals.

To answer those who rightfully will want to know the specifics of our methodology and the assumptions underlying our conclusions, we provide what we consider to be all requisite technical information in a series of notes beginning on page 124. To provide practical guidance for those who face the daily challenges of leading a school, we translate all of our findings into specific recommendations for practice. We believe that our advice will help those interested in our research methodology better understand our purpose and focus. Alternatively, we believe that our discussion of the research will help those interested in our practical advice understand the solid research base underlying our recommendations.

For those who want to more closely examine their own leadership challenges, we offer McREL's Balanced Leadership Profile 360™, a subscription-based online survey and professional development tool based on the 21 principal leadership responsibilities described in this book. You may access the principal self-assessment version of the survey and receive immediate feedback on your fulfillment of the 21 leadership responsibilities as they apply to a specific school or districtwide improvement initiative that you identify. The Balanced Leadership Profile 360™ also provides principals with a variety of online professional development resources and tools associated with the 21 leadership responsibilities and change leadership.

McREL is pleased to offer you a discount subscription to the survey. To access the discount, please visit www.mcrel.org, click Balanced Leadership Profile 360™, and enter the registration code **reader**. Then follow the directions. If you have questions concerning the survey, please call McREL at 800-781-0156.