

# Ready to Thrive



**H**ow can schools improve student outcomes? Principals agree that a key factor is making sure that students arrive at school ready to thrive. This means overcoming the various learning barriers that many students experience—from poverty and its effects on health and nourishment to student behavior and mental health issues. That is why school leaders increasingly are looking to integrated services to bring needed supports to students and families. Here are some strategies highlighted in this issue of *Principal* magazine:

**Wraparound services refers to a comprehensive, systematic approach to delivering academic and student supports to improve learning outcomes.** See “Geared Toward Support” to learn more about the Communities in Schools model (page 10), “Hungry for Knowledge” to learn more about Breakfast in the Classroom (page 16), “A Lifeline for At-Risk Children” to learn how afterschool programs expand supports through community partnerships (page 26), and “Serving Those Who Serve” to learn about strategies to support military families (page 28).

**High-quality early learning and a seamless experience from pre-K to grade 3 are proven to increase student achievement.** Deborah Bergeron, director of the Office of Head Start, argues that a dual-generation strategy—targeting both children and their parents—can yield long-term success. Learn how principals can partner with local Head Start programs in “Engaging Families Early and Often” (page 32).

**A trauma-informed learning approach can help mitigate the effects of adverse childhood experiences.** Susan Cole, senior project director of the Trauma and Learning Policy Initiative, offers principals five attributes of trauma-sensitive schools in “A Safe Haven” (page 20).

Orchestrating wraparound services requires a steady hand to lead collaboratively with multiple stakeholders across boundaries. I hope that this issue of *Principal* equips you with the strategies you need to integrate supports and close opportunity gaps for the students you serve. 📌

— Kaylen Tucker, Ph.D.

🐦 Contact me on Twitter  
@kaylentucker



**Principal** magazine presents

## LEADING LESSONS

### PUT YOUR LEARNING INTO ACTION

Access the *Leading Lessons* staff guide on integrating wraparound services at [www.naesp.org/leading-lessons](http://www.naesp.org/leading-lessons).

L. Earl Franks, Ed.D., CAE  
Executive Director,  
NAESP Foundation President

Kaylen Tucker, Ph.D.  
Editor-in-Chief  
[ktucker@naesp.org](mailto:ktucker@naesp.org)

Edwin Colbert  
Communications Coordinator

Krysia Gabenski  
Digital Communications Associate

### EDITORIAL ADVISERS

Neill Alleva  
Mamaroneck, New York

Christopher Bailey  
Katy, Texas

Julie Bloss  
Grove, Oklahoma

Liz Garden  
Holden, Massachusetts

Jessica Hutchison  
Glenview, Illinois

Lyn Marsilio  
Manassas, Virginia

Henry McCain  
Clayton, New Mexico

Doreen McSain  
Vestal, New York

Kristal Pollard  
Madison, Mississippi

Bobby Riley  
Burlington, Vermont

Matt Scott  
Harvest, Alabama

Jen Thomas  
Washington, D.C.

Jennifer Truitt-Lewis  
Fort Huachuca, Arizona

If you are interested in submitting an article for possible publication in *Principal*, submission guidelines are available at [www.naesp.org/writing](http://www.naesp.org/writing). Letters to the editor or general inquiries may be sent to [publications@naesp.org](mailto:publications@naesp.org).

### ADVERTISING SALES

Fox Associates Inc.  
800-345-8670, ext. 119  
Fax: 312-644-8718  
[adinfo.nep@foxrep.com](mailto:adinfo.nep@foxrep.com)

Printed in the USA by **The YGS Group**

**Senior Managing Editor:** Ashley Reid

**Senior Editor:** Ian P. Murphy

**Art Director:** Zon Buckley

**Photo Editor:** Melissa Wiedemann

