

# Leading Lessons on Engagement



In the decade I have been contributing to and editing NAESP's *Principal* magazine, building a positive school culture and fostering strong relationships have remained essential traits for principal leadership and school success. Without these interlaced competencies, principals can struggle to impact school improvement or any other schoolwide initiative that requires strong engagement from multiple stakeholders.

To help principals cultivate an engaged leadership style, *Principal* magazine is delivering a new resource that administrators can use to strengthen bonds, build professional culture, and put the new research, best practices, and leadership strategies that are the magazine's hallmark to work.

*Principal* magazine is proud to present *Leading Lessons*, a series designed to help practitioners take their learning into action and develop stronger leadership teams. This turn-key tool can be used as a professional guide with assistant principals, teacher leaders, or an entire school staff.

The first installment, "Creating a Climate for Change," is contributed by noted educator Jon Saphier, founder and president of Research for Better Teaching Inc., a professional development organization dedicated to improving classroom teaching and school leadership. Principals can use "Creating a Climate for Change" with their leadership teams to explore potential solutions to common challenges such as improving student attendance or developing a schoolwide culture of literacy. The pullout guide is affixed to Saphier's accompanying article, "Leading for Change," which explains why principals need to establish buy-in for new initiatives (page 36).

You can pull the guide out of the magazine and use it to plan your next leadership team or staff meeting. *Leading Lessons* will be produced regularly, so please take the time to let me know how you are using it with your staff.

— Kaylen Tucker, Ph.D.

@kaylentucker

## BONUS IN THIS ISSUE

NAESP's *Principal* magazine has teamed up with Crayola to deliver the *Champion Creatively Alive Children* magazine supplement. Use this extra resource to build creative capacity in your building.

### You're Reading a Winner!

*Principal* magazine has been awarded a 2018 APEX Award for Publication Excellence for the November/December 2017 issue, titled "Literacy Instruction: Chart a new course." The issue addresses a wide scope of literacy topics relevant to school leaders, from news literacy to cross-curricular and disciplinary instruction, to quality feedback, to choosing and evaluating a literacy program. Read the award-winning issue here: <http://bit.ly/20w1s1L>.



Principal magazine presents  
**LEADING LESSONS**

## THIS YEAR IN PRINCIPAL MAGAZINE

In addition to the new *Leading Lessons* series, hot topics for the year include safe and healthy schools, aligned learning experiences, recruiting and retaining teachers, assessment and feedback, women in leadership, and strategies for assistant principals.

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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).

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