

Case Studies on Educational Administration (6th Edition) (Allyn & Bacon Educational Leadership)

By Theodore J. Kowalski



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A collection of case studies for prospective school administrators that emphasizes problem solving, decision-making, and effective management.

Based on the conviction that effective practice in school administration requires both leadership and management, this text provides a mix of problems that require administrative decisions as presented in 24 open-ended case studies. In today's reform-minded, information-based society, practitioners must be able to frame problems correctly and then make effective decisions to ameliorate them. As leaders, district and school-level administrators are expected to focus on what should be done to improve schools; as managers, they are expected to focus on how to do things successfully. The cases in this book are designed to make students think about common problems of practice by encouraging them to bridge theory and practice. Each case provides an active form of learning, allowing students to demonstrate their ability to apply knowledge to common problem situations.



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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

What is the best way to immerse prospective administrators in the reality of practice? Perhaps no other tool better gives educational leadership students a better grasp of their future profession than open-ended case studies. In this text, 24 such case studies help students to think critically about common administrative problems, effectively manage school-wide issues, and successfully and fairly implement solutions. Touching on issues ranging from staff development to bullying in schools to grading practices, this collection of true-to-life case studies helps students to hone their decision-making skills and develop a winning approach to even the most disparate issues.

Each case in this text hones four essential practitioner skills:

- 1. The ability to frame a problem correctly
- 2. The ability to develop and evaluate alternative solutions to a defined problem
- 3. The ability to use data and other facts to counter the influence of politics and emotion in decision making
- 4. The ability to develop tacit knowledge and to integrate it with theoretical knowledge by engaging in reflective practice

About the Author

Theodore J. Kowalski holds the Kuntz Family Chair in Educational Administration, an endowed professorship at the University of Dayton. A former school superintendent, he previously taught at Purdue University, Saint Louis University, and Ball State University, where he also served as dean of the Teachers College. Professor Kowalski is the author or co-author of 18 books and over 135 book chapters and journal articles. He has published in leading journals such as Educational Administration Quarterly, Phi Delta Kappan, Leadership and Policy in Schools, and Planning and Changing. He also is editor of the Journal of School Public Relations and serves on the editorial boards of two other professional journals.

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