



# Leading for Equity: The Pursuit of Excellence in the Montgomery County Public Schools

*Stacey M. Childress, Denis P. Doyle, David A. Thomas*

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*Leading for Equity* tells the compelling story of the Montgomery County (Maryland) Public Schools and its transformation—in less than a decade—into a system committed to breaking the links between race and class and academic achievement.

In chapters organized around six core themes, the authors lay out the essential elements of MCPS's success. They identify key lessons other districts can draw from MCPS's experience and offer a framework for applying them. A dramatic departure from "business as usual," MCPS has won nationwide attention as a compelling model for tackling the achievement and opportunity issues that confront our nation as a whole.

"Every person working to improve America's schools should consider the real-world lessons in this book."  
—**Randi Weingarten**, president, American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO

"An exceedingly tight, targeted, and well-told story . . . MCPS got it right. Will we?"  
—**Arlene C. Ackerman**, superintendent of schools, School District of Philadelphia

"As this book shows, closing the achievement gap is doable; the question is whether we have the will to get it done."  
—**Joel I. Klein**, chancellor, New York City Schools

"*Leading for Equity* is a game-changer. Every school board member, county official, superintendent, union, and business leader should take note."  
—**Anne L. Bryant**, executive director, National School Boards Association

"*Leading for Equity* is a must-read for anyone who still doubts that a school district can enable students of all backgrounds to perform at high levels."  
—**Dan Katzir**, managing director, The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation

"The district's success in improving the achievement levels of minority and low-income students and dismantling barriers to high performance have made it a model for other districts nationwide."  
—**Daniel A. Domenech**, executive director, American Association of School Administrators

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