

Excellence Through Equity: Five Principles of Courageous Leadership to Guide Achievement for Every Student

By Alan M. Blankstein, Pedro Noguera, Lorena Kelly

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Excellence Through Equity is an inspiring look at how real-world educators are creating schools where all students are able to thrive. In these schools, educators understand that equity is not about treating all children the same. They are deeply committed to ensuring that each student receives what he or she individually needs to develop their full potential—and succeed.

To help educators with what can at times be a difficult and challenging journey, Blankstein and Noguera frame the book with five guiding principles of Courageous Leadership:

- * Getting to your core
- * Making organizational meaning
- * Ensuring constancy and consistency of purpose
- * Facing the facts and your fears
- * Building sustainable relationships

They further emphasize that the practices are grounded in three important areas of research that are too often disregarded: (1) child development, (2) neuroscience, and (3) environmental influences on child development and learning.

You'll hear from Carol Corbett Burris, Michael Fullan, Marcus J. Newsome, Paul Reville, Susan Szachowicz, and other bold practitioners and visionary thinkers who share compelling and actionable ideas, strategies, and experiences for closing the achievement gap in your classrooms and school.

Ensuring that all students receive an education that cultivates their talents and potential is in all our common interest. As Andy Hargreaves writes in the coda: "The opportunity for all Americans is to articulate and believe in an inspiring vision of educational change that is about what the next generation of America

and Americans should become, not about a target or ranking that the nation should attain."

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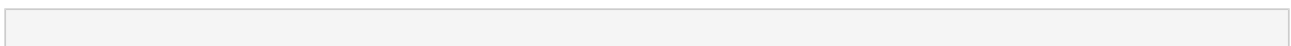
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- Sales Rank: #471996 in eBooks
- Published on: 2016-02-26
- Released on: 2016-02-26
- Format: Kindle eBook



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Editorial Review

Review

“Equity is not ensuring that all children receive the same thing, but ensuring that every child gets what he or she needs in order to succeed. Pedro Noguera and Alan Blankstein provide examples of how courageous Americans are taking this charge head on by illustrating how excellence through equity can be achieved. To ignore this issue means to undermine the future of our children. This book is a must-read for teachers, principals, administrators, policy and business leaders and parents—or anyone interested in becoming champions for children and strengthening our nation’s public education agenda.”

(Daniel A. Domenech, Executive Director)

“Pedro Noguera’s and Alan Blankstein’s book should be on the shelf of every school leader and community member who is committed to providing exceptional educational opportunities for all. Excellence through Equity is a well written combination of research, philosophical approaches, and practical effective implementations.”

(Luvelle Brown, Superintendent)

“In the United States, as population decreases and the percentage of poverty levels of children increases, it is critical that policy maker, schools, and communities galvanize their work toward equitable educational outcomes for our children. This book provides a range of perspectives that will inform the work and inspire courage in those that can make it happen.”

(Merrienne Dyer, Education Consultant)

“Amidst the confusion created by a highly polarized country, sound educational policies and practices have become as uncommon as bipartisanship. In the cacophony that marks the current education debates, Noguera and Blankstein demonstrate that there need not be a choice between excellence and equity but that the two are complementary and necessary. Their stories of school transformation told by teachers and other leaders are compelling and show us the way to a new paradigm.”

(Rosa Aronson, Executive Director)

“Excellence through Equity is an exemplary look at how educators across the country are tackling today’s issue of equity to ensure all students not only have the opportunity to learn but excel. A great read for all those interested in providing the best possible education to all students!”

(Greg Wolcott, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning)

“This book provides timely insights and powerful examples that educational equity and excellence is necessary and possible. In addition, the stories of courageous leadership and persistence amplify what is required from each of us to achieve sustainable and lasting change in public education.”

(Victor Cary, Senior Director)

“Education is not something we do to children; it is something we do with children. Children are the travelers on an educational journey. We are the tour guides. Each traveler comes with a different set of luggage and as a tour guide we need to help provide them with the best accommodations, modifications and enrichments to help them maximize their journey. As they send out their postcards, we want to make sure each is full of equal opportunities! You see these are our future tour guides and they will design future destinations for the travelers who come.”

(Brenda Yoho, Director of Education Support Programs)

“This book comes at a time when we are experiencing unprecedented inequality throughout American society and, in particular, in education. The recommendations in this book, if implemented at the state, federal and school district level, could change the trajectory in which we are now heading that threatens to create a social tsunami that will impact the lives of every citizen in America.”

(Bolgen Vargas, Superintendent of Schools)

The twin goals of equity and excellence have been illusive in schools serving children of color, immigrant children, poor children, and children whose first language is other than English. Illusive not because they are unattainable but because we have lacked the political will to provide the necessary resources and to recognize the many talents and cultural 'funds of knowledge' students bring from their homes and communities. This volume is filled with "existence proofs" that demonstrate that some dedicated teachers, principals, and communities have (and continue to) meet those goals. This book gives new (and certainly less punitive and strident) meaning to the notion of "no excuses." It is a must read.

(Gloria Ladson-Billings, Professor)

“A movement is born out of the convergence of dire conditions, a powerful idea, and people committed to carrying out that idea.

This landmark (work) by Alan M. Blankstein and Pedro Noguera, may be a catalyst to such a movement.”

(Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Arch Bishop Desmond Tutu 2015-01-20)

From the Inside Flap

Excellence Through Equity is an inspiring look at how real-world educators are creating schools where all students are able to thrive. In these schools, educators understand that equity is not about treating all children the same. They are deeply committed to ensuring that each student receives what he or she individually needs to develop their full potential and succeed. To help educators with what can at times be a difficult and challenging journey, Blankstein and Noguera frame the book with five guiding principles of Courageous Leadership: -Getting to your core -Making organizational meaning -Ensuring constancy and consistency of purpose -Facing the facts and your fears -Building sustainable relationships They further emphasize that the practices are grounded in three important areas of research that are too often disregarded: (1) child development, (2) neuroscience, and (3) environmental influences on child development and learning. You'll hear from Carol Corbett Burris, Michael Fullan, Marcus J. Newsome, Paul Reville, Susan Szachowicz, and

other bold practitioners and visionary thinkers who share compelling and actionable ideas, strategies, and experiences for closing the achievement gap in your classrooms and school. Ensuring that all students receive an education that cultivates their talents and potential is in all our common interest. As Andy Hargreaves writes in the coda: "The opportunity for all Americans is to articulate and believe in an inspiring vision of educational change that is about what the next generation of America and Americans should become, not about a target or ranking that the nation should attain." From the Foreword by Archbishop Desmond Tutu: "Letting go of a system of winners and losers in favor of what is proposed in this book is a courageous leap forward that we all must take together. Let this bold, practical book be a guide; and may you travel into this new exciting vista, in which every child can succeed."

About the Author

Award-winning author and educational leader, Alan Blankstein served for 25 years as President of the HOPE Foundation, which he founded and whose honorary chair is Nobel Prize winner Archbishop Desmond Tutu. A former "high-risk" youth, Alan began his career in education as a music teacher. He worked for Phi Delta Kappa, March of Dimes, and Solution Tree, which he founded in 1987 and directed for 12 years while launching Professional Learning Communities beginning in the late 1980s. He is the author of the best-selling book *Failure Is Not an Option®: Six Principles That Guide Student Achievement in High-Performing Schools*, which received the Book of the Year award from Learning Forward. Alan is Senior Editor, lead contributor, and/or author of 18 books, including *Excellence Through Equity* with Pedro Noguera, (*In Press*). He also authored some 20 articles in leading education print including *Education Week*, *Educational Leadership*, *The Principal*, and *Executive Educator*. Alan has provided keynote presentations and workshops for virtually every major U.S. Ed Org, and throughout the UK, Africa, and the Middle East. Alan has served on the Harvard International Principals Centers advisory board, and the Jewish Child Care Agency, where he once was a youth in residence.

Pedro Noguera is the Peter L. Agnew Professor of Education at New York University. He holds tenured faculty appointments in the departments of Teaching and Learning and Humanities and Social Sciences at the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Development and in the Department of Sociology at New York University. He is also the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Center for Urban Education and the co-Director of the Institute for the Study of Globalization and Education in Metropolitan Settings (IGEMS).

He is the author of *The Imperatives of Power: Political Change and the Social Basis of Regime Support in Grenada* (Peter Lang Publishers, 1997), *City Schools and the American Dream* (Teachers College Press 2003), *Unfinished Business: Closing the Achievement Gap in Our Nation's Schools* (Josey Bass, 2006) *City Kids*, *City Teachers* with Bill Ayers and Greg Michie (New Press 2008), and his most recent book is *The Trouble With Black Boys...and Other Reflections on Race, Equity and the Future of Public Education* (Wiley and Sons, 2008). Noguera has also appeared as a regular commentator on educational issues on CNN, National Public Radio, and other national news outlets.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kai Martin:

Do you one among people who can't read satisfying if the sentence chained in the straightway, hold on guys this specific aren't like that. This Excellence Through Equity: Five Principles of Courageous Leadership to Guide Achievement for Every Student book is readable through you who hate the straight word style. You will find the info here are arrange for enjoyable examining experience without leaving perhaps decrease the knowledge that want to give to you. The writer of Excellence Through Equity: Five Principles of Courageous Leadership to Guide Achievement for Every Student content conveys the idea easily to understand by many people. The printed and e-book are not different in the content material but it just different as it. So , do you continue to thinking Excellence Through Equity: Five Principles of Courageous Leadership to Guide Achievement for Every Student is not loveable to be your top list reading book?

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People live in this new day of lifestyle always try and and must have the spare time or they will get wide range of stress from both day to day life and work. So , if we ask do people have time, we will say absolutely of course. People is human not just a robot. Then we inquire again, what kind of activity do you possess when the spare time coming to an individual of course your answer can unlimited right. Then do you ever try this one, reading textbooks. It can be your alternative throughout spending your spare time, the actual book you have read will be Excellence Through Equity: Five Principles of Courageous Leadership to Guide Achievement for Every Student.

Terry White:

Excellence Through Equity: Five Principles of Courageous Leadership to Guide Achievement for Every Student can be one of your nice books that are good idea. All of us recommend that straight away because this reserve has good vocabulary which could increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining but still delivering the information. The article writer giving his/her effort to put every word into enjoyment arrangement in writing Excellence Through Equity: Five Principles of Courageous Leadership to Guide Achievement for Every Student however doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest along with based confirm resource details that maybe you can be one among it. This great information can drawn you into brand-new stage of crucial imagining.

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