

# The Principal's Playbook:

## Tackling School Improvement

**Nancy Protheroe**



*Because research and information make the difference.*

**Educational Research Service**

1001 North Fairfax Street, Suite 500 • Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone: 703-243-2100 • Toll Free: 800-791-9308

Fax: 703-243-1985 • Toll Free: 800-791-9309

Email: [ers@ers.org](mailto:ers@ers.org) • Web site: [www.ers.org](http://www.ers.org)

# Table of Contents

**Preparing Your Faculty for Success**..... v  
by Dr. John Draper

## **Section I: Increasing Student Engagement**

Chapter 1: Learning and the Teacher-Student Connection ..... 3  
Chapter 2: Enhancing Students’ Beliefs in Their Ability to Learn ..... 15  
Chapter 3: Learning Strategies as a Key to Student Success ..... 23  
Chapter 4: Motivating Reluctant Learners ..... 31  
Chapter 5: Culturally Responsive Teaching ..... 43  
Chapter 6: Response to Intervention in Middle and High Schools ..... 57  
Chapter 7: Supporting English Language Learners ..... 71

## **Section II: Improving Teacher Effectiveness**

Chapter 8: Using the Research Base About Good Teaching ..... 83  
Chapter 9: Teacher Efficacy: What Is It and Why Does It Matter? ..... 97  
Chapter 10: Becoming Effective Data Users ..... 105  
Chapter 11: Differentiating Instruction in a Standards-Based Environment ..... 115  
Chapter 12: Effective Mathematics Instruction ..... 127  
Chapter 13: Using Curriculum-Based Measurement to “Get a Handle” on Student Progress ... 139

## **Section III: Implementing Effective Schoolwide Practices**

Chapter 14: Using Professional Learning Communities to Support Teaching and Learning ..... 149  
Chapter 15: Making Homework Work for Your School ..... 161  
Chapter 16: Teachers Working With Teachers to Improve Instruction ..... 171  
Chapter 17: Single-Sex Education ..... 185

## **Section IV: Providing Effective Principal Leadership**

Chapter 18: Using Classroom Walkthroughs to Improve Instruction ..... 201  
Chapter 19: The School-Family Connection ..... 211  
Chapter 20: A Proactive, Schoolwide Approach to Discipline ..... 223