

Foreword

Elaine Wilmore has made a major contribution to the preparation of school principals with this book. Since the development of the 1983 American Association of School Administrators (AASA) Guidelines for the Preparation of School Administrators, several organizations have extended and modified the seven competencies into standards for the preparation and professional development of school leaders. Fenwick English and Betty Steffy collaborated with me in *Skills for Successful 21st Century School Leaders* (1998) to synthesize the key standards, skills, dispositions, input and outcome measures, and instructional strategies included in standards by the AASA, Educational Leadership Constituent Council (ELCC), National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), National Policy Board for Educational Administration (NPBEA), and the Interstate School Leaders Licensure (ISLLC). In 2001, the ELCC, composed of selected individuals representing AASA, AACTE, ASCD, CCSSO, NAESP, NASSP, NCPEA, and UCEA, revised standards for Advanced Programs in Educational Leadership and presented them to the Specialty Areas Study Board (SASB) of NCATE. These new ELCC standards for principals, superintendents, and other central office administrators were drawn from ISLLC, AASA, and NCATE standards for the position of superintendent and other central office administrators. They represent the latest collaboration of professional associations to establish the vital elements to judge the quality of preparation programs for school leaders.

x PRINCIPAL LEADERSHIP

Now Elaine Wilmore has taken a bold step in writing this important book on principal leadership by focusing on the ELCC standards for the preparation of campus-level principals. Dr. Wilmore brings to her scholarship successful experience from public-school classrooms and principalships, from the boardroom, and from the university where she has been a leader in the creation of one of the nation's most respected field-based programs for school principals. In this definitive work, Dr. Wilmore presents multiple examples of problem-based teaching and field-based learning to prepare informed, skilled, and caring principals for the elementary, middle, and high schools of America. Elaine Wilmore's content mastery blends scholarship with practice to guide program planners in gaining ELCC approval and NCATE accreditation and to prepare the best and the brightest for the demanding role of principal.

Dr. Wilmore has earned the respect of practitioners, state and national association executives, and her colleagues in higher education. She is President Elect of the National Council of Professors of Educational Administration and has the reputation of a dynamic and positive spokesperson in our discipline. This book is a must for all program directors striving for excellence in principal preparation and for those interested in earning NCATE accreditation.

John R. Hoyle