Leadership

Submissions

Leadership magazine provides in-depth information about the most critical issues facing education leaders today. Published five times a year, each issue has a specific focus area, and articles are written by education experts and practitioners.

Leadership magazine welcomes your submissions. Articles must focus on the theme for that issue and include practical information for school administrators written in an informal style. *Please note that not all submissions will be published.*

Find Leadership online at **leadership.acsa.org**.

Submission Checklist/Instructions:

■ Articles should focus on a topic related to the theme for that issue.

■ Include practical information written in an informal style.

■ Do not include footnotes; list references at end of article with parenthetical sources in text (Author, Year).

■ Limit article to 2,500 words.

■ Submit your article in an editable (Word or similar) format — no PDFs.

■ Include complete author contact information, including: title, work location and any doctorate-level degrees and/or specialized experience or knowledge pertaining to the subject matter.

■ Email your article by the submission deadlines below to Editor Michelle Carl at **mcarl@acsa.org.**

Issue Themes for 2025-2026

September/October 2025: Finding Common Ground

As federal policies change and the ideological divide only appears to grow wider, what are strategies for honoring diverse viewpoints while staying focused on serving students?

• Navigating students' and parents' rights.
• Communication strategies on divisive subjects.
• Protecting DEI programs/mixed status families/transgender students.
• Civil board meetings.
• Engaging diverse viewpoints.
• And more ...

Submission Deadline: June 9, 2025

November/December 2025: Family Engagement

The well-being of parents and caregivers is directly linked to the well-being of their children. With the demands of raising children in today's world, how can schools better empower and support parents as partners in the development of their children?

- Building trust with parents.
- Successful conferences, incorporating families' voices in IEPs.
- Communication best practices.
- Equity-centered family engagement (culturally responsive and accessible).
- Empowering parents through LCAP, Parent Advisory, etc.
- Connecting families with resources to support student success.
- And more ...

Submission Deadline: Aug. 4, 2025

January/February 2026: Navigating Fiscal Challenges

With school funding constantly in flux, leaders must navigate shifting state and federal budgets, advocate for resources, and find creative ways to sustain programs.

- Budgeting for uncertainty.
- Grants, bonds and alternative funding sources.
- ADA and declining enrollment.
- Responsible budgeting for long-term school success.
- Advocacy strategies for protecting and increasing education budgets.
- Staffing reductions.
- And more ...

Submission Deadline: Sept. 29, 2025

March/April 2026: Green Schools

How are we preparing our school facilities — and our students — for the reality of climate change? What innovative practices and initiatives are contributing to more sustainable, equitable and healthy school learning environments?

- Sustainable schools.
- Curriculum on ecology/science, CTE for green careers.
- Energy independence: solar arrays, electric fleets.
- Outdoor learning.
- Green building design/facilities.
- Environmental justice.
- And more ...

Submission Deadline: Nov. 17, 2025

May/June 2026: At-promise Students

While every student has the potential to succeed, some students face greater obstacles than others. What new practices are schools using to better serve their most vulnerable students?

- Serving students from historically socio-economically disadvantaged groups.
- Foster youth and students experiencing homelessness.
- Newcomer students and multi-lingual learners.
- Special education students.
- Credit-deficient students.
- Pulling incarcerated and gang-affiliated youth out of the "pipeline."
- And more ...

Submission Deadline: Feb. 2, 2026