

## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING GUIDE



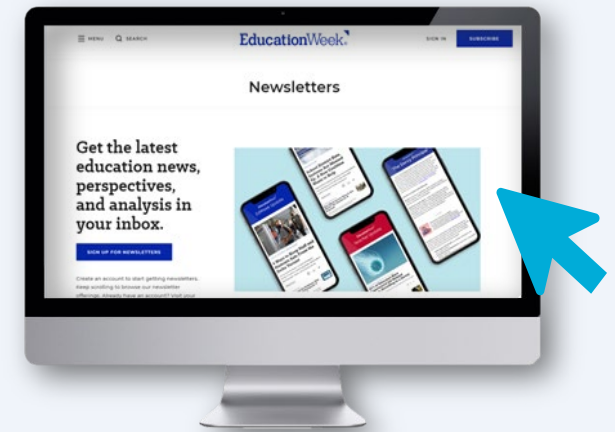
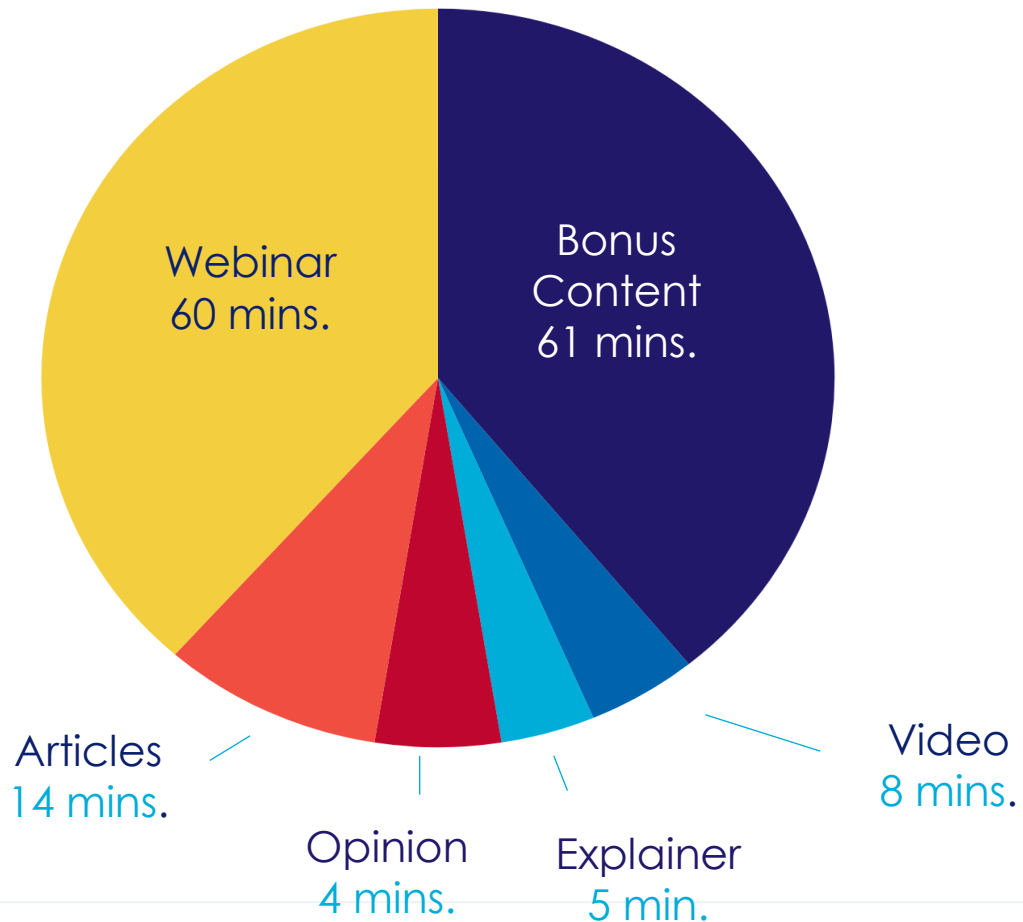
# What Makes a Principal Great?

Insights Into the Role & Best Practices for Success

# What Makes a Principal Great?

## Insights Into the Role and Best Practices for Success

Approximately 1.5 Hours of Learning + Bonus Content



### THE EXTRAS

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# » Table of Contents

## The Big Picture

- + 🧠 **Explainer** What Does a School Principal Do? [SLIDE 5](#)

## Voices & Views

- + 👍 **Article** The Top 10 Things That Keep Principals Up at Night [SLIDE 6](#)

## Innovators in Action

- + 🎬 **Video** 'I'm Not About Making Excuses': Lessons From the National Principal of the Year [SLIDE 7](#)

## On the Pulse

- + 📖 **Article** School Leaders Need Emotional Intelligence. Here's How They Build It [SLIDE 8](#)

## Field Notes

- + 📺 **Webinar** Fostering Productive Relationships Between Principals and Teachers [SLIDE 9](#)



# » Table of Contents, continued

## Try This Today

- + 🎬 **Video** How This Principal Got His Groove Back, and 3 Tips for Others [SLIDE 10](#)

## From the Archives

- + 🧠 **Opinion** 4 Things Principals Can Do (and 4 Things They Shouldn't) to Build Relationships With Teachers [SLIDE 11](#)

## Bonus Content

- + 🌟 **Further Reading & Viewing** [SLIDE 12](#)

## Discussion Questions

- + ? **Read, Review, Reflect** [SLIDE 13](#)



# The Big Picture: Explainer

## What Does a School Principal Do?

America's school principals wear a lot of hats.

Most of what goes on inside the building, from shaping the master schedule to sitting in on parent meetings, falls under their purview.

Explore this article to get the full picture of what their duties look like, the composition of the principal workforce, what makes principals effective, and how schools can retain their best leaders.

**Start Reading:**

+ [Access Now](#)



### BY THE NUMBERS



- + **6-minute read** time
- + Go deeper on the latest education issues with EdWeek's research-based [explainers](#).

# Voices & Views: Article

## The Top 10 Things That Keep Principals Up at Night

Principals' jobs are hard, and there are plenty of stressors and challenges to keep them awake at night. But what, exactly, are the most common concerns for principals?

The EdWeek Research Center asked a nationally representative sample of educators, including principals, this question: "What's the one thing that's work related that is keeping you up at night right now?"

**Start Reading:**

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### BY THE NUMBERS



- + **5-minute** read time
- + This article is part of our [School & District Management](#) content, offering insights, news, and best practices on how to lead schools and districts.

# Innovators in Action: Video

## ‘I’m Not About Making Excuses’: Lessons From the National Principal of the Year

Tracie Anderson Swilley, named National Principal of the Year by the National Association of Secondary School Principals, has led Fairfield Central High School in Winnsboro, S.C., for more than a decade.

During her tenure, the school’s graduation rate has improved and Fairfield Central’s students have also made strong gains in both math and reading. Discover her secret to success.

**Start Viewing:**

+ [Access Now](#)



### BY THE NUMBERS



- + **4-minute** watch time
- + EdWeek has **a full team** dedicated to interactive visuals, photos, and videos. They highlight critical conversations and topics important to your district. Find all the latest in our [Multimedia section](#).

# On the Pulse: Article

## School Leaders Need Emotional Intelligence. Here's How They Build It

“Emotional intelligence,” a term that gained popularity in the business world in the 1990s, generally refers to traits that fall into key domains of self-awareness, self-management, social skills, empathy, and motivation.

Education Week spoke to principals and superintendents about the value of emotional intelligence and their efforts to develop it. Their conclusion: The work is as difficult as it is urgent.

**Start Reading:**

+ [Access Now](#)



### BY THE NUMBERS



- + **9-minute** read time
- + This article is part of our [School & District Management](#) content, offering insights, news, and best practices on how to lead schools and districts.

# Field Notes: Webinar

## Fostering Productive Relationships Between Principals and Teachers

How can school leaders and teachers develop stronger working relationships?

Education Week leads a conversation with experts and school practitioners about strategies both teachers and principals can use to better communicate and collaborate as they work together to meet the needs of students.

**Start Viewing:**

+ [Access Now](#)



### BY THE NUMBERS



- + **1-hour** watch time
- + EdWeek offers a robust library of upcoming and on-demand [webinars](#).

# Try This Today: Video

## How This Principal Got His Groove Back, and 3 Tips for Others

As the principal's role has become more complex and demanding, competing priorities can quickly fill up their schedules without leaving any time to connect with students and teachers in a meaningful way.

To avoid burning out, principals need to be conscious about how they are spending their time. Learn three strategies from a high school principal that can help.

**Start Viewing:**

+ [Access Now](#)



BY THE NUMBERS



- + **3-minute** viewing time
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# From the Archives: Opinion

## 4 Things Principals Can Do (and 4 Things They Shouldn't) to Build Relationships With Teachers

Change in schools is hard and has the potential to sour teachers' relationships with their principal if new programs and initiatives are not implemented well. And the success of new school programs and initiatives hinges on teachers' willing participation and buy-in, experts say.

So how can principals foster meaningful buy-in among their school's staff? Education Week asked four veteran teachers for their advice.

### Start Reading:

+ [Access Now](#)



### BY THE NUMBERS



- + **4-minute** read time
- + EdWeek's [Opinion](#) section offers a range of perspectives on critical K-12 issues, featuring commentary and analysis from teachers, administrators, and education advocates.

# Bonus Content

## Maximize Your District's Knowledge

- + Opinion [5 Ways to Make Your Faculty Meetings More Valuable Than an Email](#) (5 mins.)
- + Article [Coaching for New Principals Can Provide a Critical Pillar of Support](#) (11 mins.)
- + Quiz [How Much Do You Know About Literacy Leadership?](#) (5 mins.)
- + Article [5 Ways for Principals to Turn Crisis Into Professional Development](#) (8 mins.)
- + Article [Teachers Hate Observations. What Principals Can Do to Ease Their Stress](#) (5 mins.)
- + Article [How These Principals Nip Apathy in the Bud After Winter Break and Long Weekends](#) (6 mins.)
- + Video [How This Principal Manages Student Behavior—Without Too Many Rules](#) (2:11 mins.)
- + Video [3 Things Principals Can Do to Make Teacher PD Better](#) (5 mins.)
- + Article [What These New Principals Did to Get the Hang of Being in Charge](#) (7 mins.)
- + Opinion [You Shouldn't Have to Sacrifice Your Health to Be a Good School Leader](#) (4 mins.)
- + Article [How to Have Hard Conversations With Your Teachers: 3 Tips for Principals](#) (3 mins.)

# Discussion Questions

## Deepen Your Learning!

- + What strategies, tools, or ideas from this professional learning guide (PLG) do you want to use in your teaching?
- + Was there anything in this PLG you didn't agree with or that was hard to understand?
- + Does this PLG remind you of any other teaching ideas or methods you already know? How does it fit with your overall teaching beliefs?
- + How do you think these approaches will help your students? How could you change them to better fit their needs?
- + How can you share what you learned with other teachers in the school?
- + How can we use what we learned to work better together as a teaching team? Are there any projects or initiatives we could do together?
- + Choose one thing from this PLG you'd like to try in your classroom. What's the first thing you would do to make it happen?



These questions are designed to support your learning (as an individual or a group) and improve student outcomes.

- + **Read:** Individually review this professional learning guide (PLG).
- + **Review:** Meet with your professional learning community (PLC) to share insights. Decide what content to focus on first.
- + **Reflect:** Identify three actions to implement now, soon, and someday.

# Our Expertise in K-12 Spans Across All Topic Areas

On average, the Education Week newsroom and research center produces **2,100+ pieces of original content** per year.

## What this means for districts:

- + **7 new articles** every weekday
- + **94+ webinars** offering actionable guidance on key topics
- + **17 special reports** per year
- + **7 newsletters** curated for educators and leadership

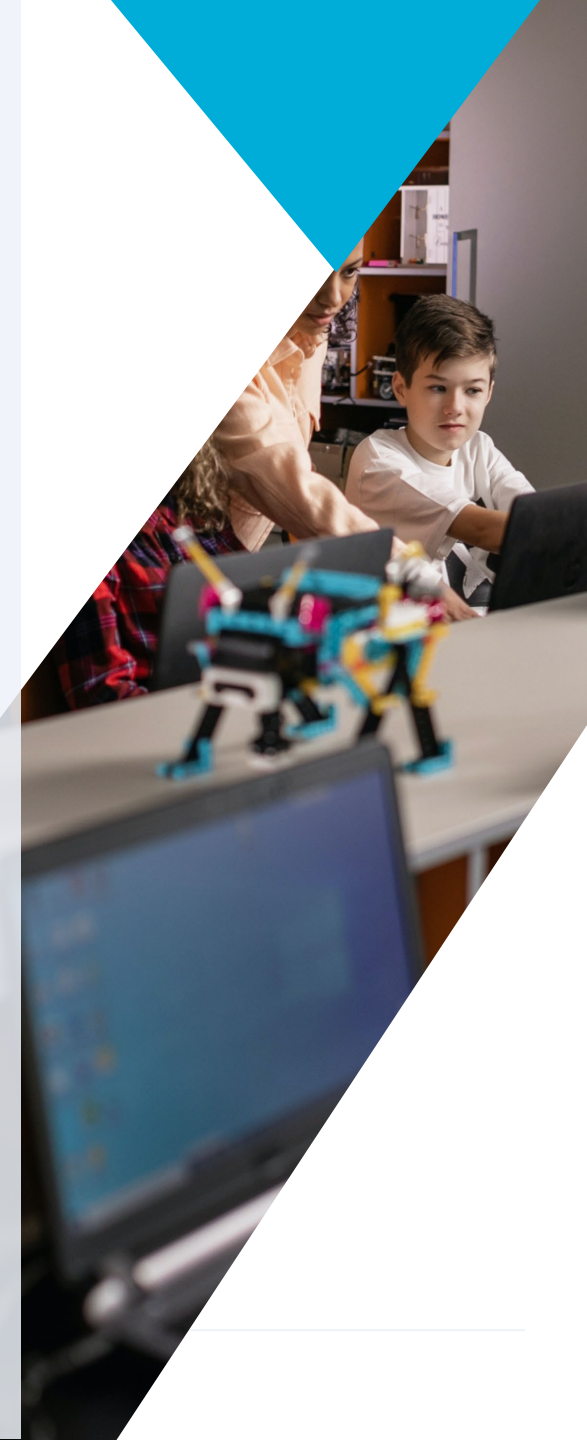
## Explore All Professional Learning Guides:

- + [Access Here](#)

## Focus Your Professional Learning on Topics That Matter:

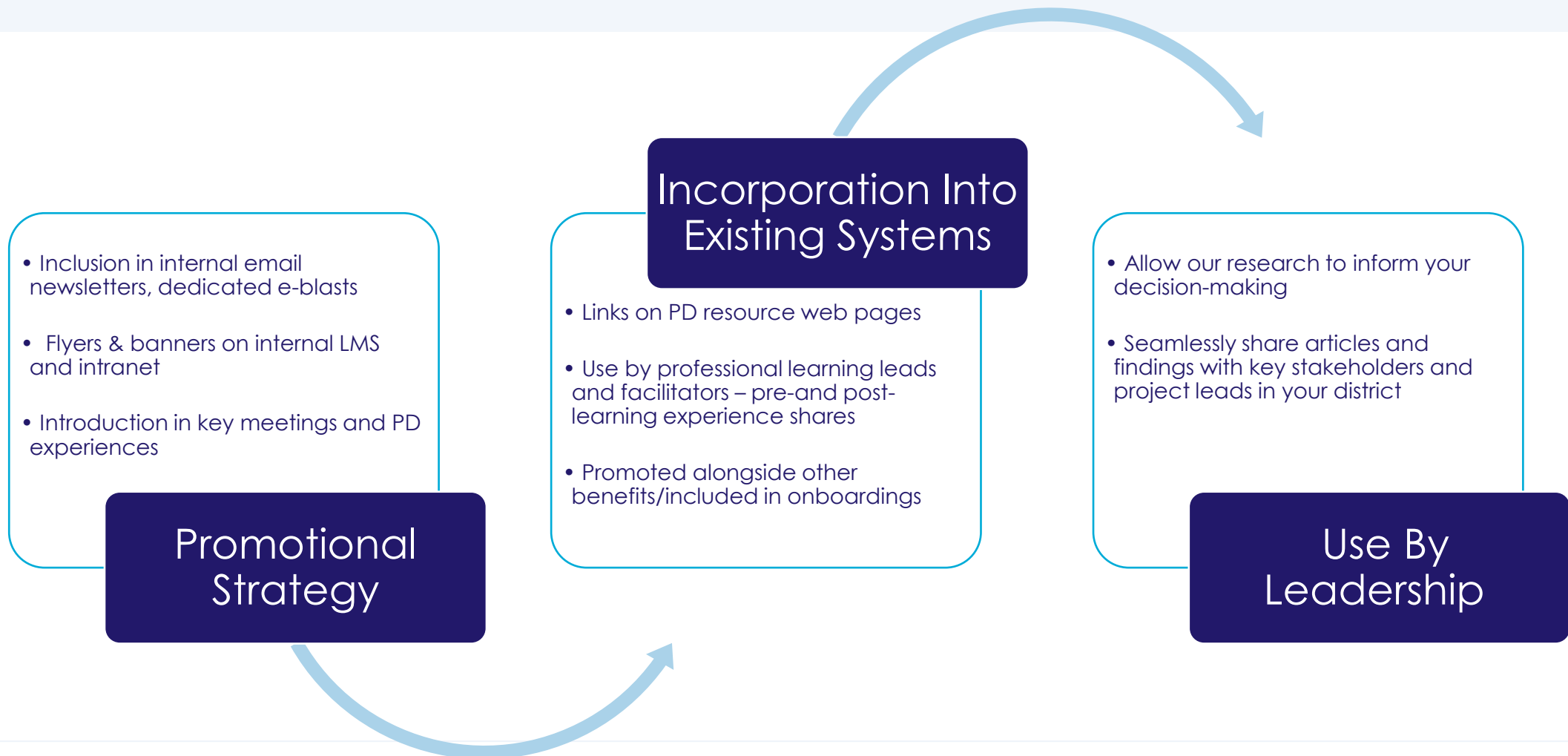
- Artificial Intelligence
- Assessment
- Budget & Finance
- Classroom Technology
- College & Workforce Readiness
- Curriculum
- Early Childhood
- Education Funding
- Emerging Technology
- Equity & Diversity
- Mathematics
- Personalized Learning
- Reading & Literacy
- School Climate & Safety
- School & District Management
- Student Achievement
- Social-Emotional Learning
- Professional Development

... and more.



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# Thank you.

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