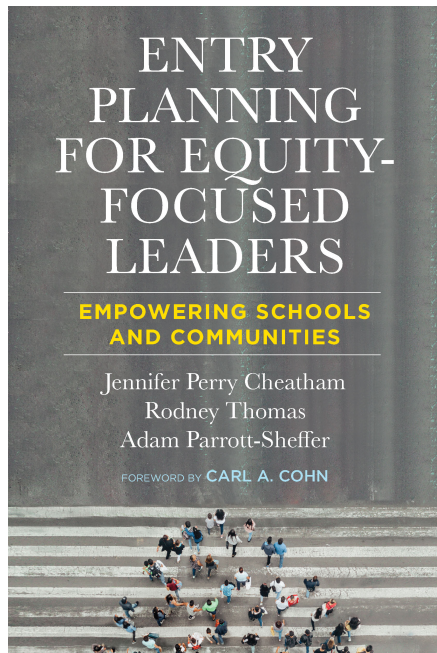


“Disrupting inequities and creating more culturally responsive schools and systems requires intentional leadership moves. Cheatham, Thomas, and Parrott-Sheffer offer the gift of lifting stories of leaders who entered their leadership journeys with purpose and who model what it looks like to display your values and center equity in how you listen, learn, and iterate even when things get tough.”

—NANCY GUTIERREZ, PRESIDENT & CEO OF THE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

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ENTRY PLANNING FOR EQUITY-FOCUSED LEADERS

Empowering Schools and Communities

JENNIFER PERRY CHEATHAM, RODNEY THOMAS,
AND ADAM PARROTT-SHEFFER

FOREWORD BY CARL A. COHN

A vital resource for educational leaders, *Entry Planning for Equity-Focused Leaders* introduces an equity-minded process for intentional entry planning that sets the stage for sustainable change within organizations.

In this practitioner-focused and action-oriented work, Jennifer Perry Cheatham, Rodney Thomas, and Adam Parrott-Sheffer consolidate their extensive experience centering equity in leadership. They affirm that the entry of a new leader, or the pivot of an established one, affords an unparalleled opportunity to garner the insight, trust, and commitment that will establish a basis for positive, equitable transformation within a system.

This essential work provides a flexible framework for leadership entry that is customized to fit the complex social, political, and economic demands of a given organization and the community it serves. It highlights how such an approach prepares leaders to begin addressing one of the most entrenched and persistent issues in education: structural and systemic racism.

Appealing to community and school leadership at all levels—superintendents, principals, project managers, and nonprofit partners, among others—the book presents seven components needed to enact an entry plan, from understanding context, to establishing transparency, to galvanizing partners for action. Through case studies and interviews, the authors explore the key skills necessary for each component. They then offer a wide range of supplementary tools and exercises to help leaders begin or recast their tenures and advance their agendas successfully.

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