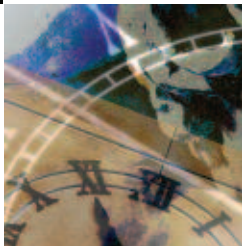


# FROM THE EDITOR

## Tutoring, NCLB, and you



**F**or six years now, school districts have worked to implement the mandates of the No Child Left Behind Act. As with any piece of legislation, especially one as far-reaching (some would say intrusive) as NCLB, there have been more than a few hurdles, some potholes, and a number of success stories.

Nowhere is this more evident than in the world of supplemental educational services, the topic of this month's cover story, "Read This," which starts on Page 14. In this multiple-page, multiple-story package, Senior Editors Del Stover and Lawrence Hardy look at the booming billion-dollar industry that tutoring has become, the challenges districts and states face to fulfill NCLB's intent, and what lies ahead.

This month's issue, which focuses on school leadership, also features an interview with the always-outspoken Paul Houston, who is retiring June 30 after 13 years as the executive director of the American Association of School Administrators. The question-and-answer session, which came as Houston prepared to lead his final AASA annual meeting, starts on Page

20. It is filled with his usual candid remarks on the state of the superintendency and public education in the post-NCLB world.

Finally, Senior Editor Naomi Dillon takes a look at three very different types of parents in "The Parent Trap," which begins on Page 30. The story describes the challenges three mothers face in helping their children to be successful, and how they are working with (or against) their schools to do so.

Dillon's story is especially illuminating in light of the large number of recent reports on the state of families and teens that are in your schools. Those reports, which are examined in a news analysis starting on Page 6, paint an often-sad, sometimes-encouraging picture of the state of today's teens.

We hope you enjoy this month's issue. Next month, look for Associate Editor Joetta Sack-Min's story on autism, as well as the return of our "Children at Risk" series focusing on mental health issues.

Until next month . . .

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