



# School Law and the Public Schools: A Practical Guide for Educational Leaders (5th Edition) (Allyn & Bacon Educational Leadership)

By Nathan L. Essex

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## **Editorial Review**

From the Back Cover

*A “must-have” essential reference for all teachers, school leaders, and policymakers in today’s U.S. public schools!*

Here in one practical, easy to read guide is vital information on historical and contemporary legal issues affecting the organization and administration of schools in America. School safety; cyberbullying; copyright law and use of media; Response to Intervention (RtI); isolation and restraining laws involving students with disabilities; landmark cases involving equal pay, strip searches, and freedom of expression; the ADA Amendments Act of 2008; liability insurance for teachers and administrators; truancy and school vouchers—virtually every topic of concern to today’s educators is covered in an organization and style that is accessible to even those with little or no knowledge of the legal issues affecting public schools.

- **Compact, practical, and easy to read**, this guide is the ideal reference for all students, teachers, and school leaders.
- **Relevant case law rulings, charts, and tables** are integrated throughout.
- **Practical guides and in-basket exercises** at the end of each chapter help readers reinforce the concepts and provide practical guidance.
- **Included are discussions on** the landmark Supreme Court decision on Title IX Retaliation; a historical discussion of the U.S. Constitution, Federalism, the Separation of Powers, and the Bill of Rights; theories related to breathalyzers and when they can be used to test for alcohol consumption; and the conditions under which counselors may maintain confidentiality regarding their professional interactions with students.

### ***NEW to this Edition:***

- **A reorganized chapter on Legal Framework**
- **A revised chapter on Public School Finance**
- **NEW discussions on Copyright Law and the Use of Multimedia by educators, the Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, cyberbullying in public schools, the pros and cons of school vouchers, Response to Intervention (RtI), isolation and restraint laws, the Fair Labor Standards Act, and the Legal Information Retrieval System.**

### About the Author

**Nathan L. Essex** is a professor of Educational Law and Leadership at the University of Memphis and President of Southwest Tennessee Community College. He received a B.S. in English at Alabama A&M University, an M.S. in Educational Administration at Jacksonville State University, and a Ph.D. in Administration and Planning at the University of Alabama.

Essex’s interests include law, educational policy, and personnel administration. He has served as consultant for more than 100 school districts and numerous educational agencies. He served as a policy consultant with the Alabama State Department of Education for 12 years and received numerous awards in recognition of his contributions to the field of education. He is the recipient of the Truman M. Pierce Award for Educational

Leadership, for outstanding contributions which advanced the direction of education in the state of Alabama; the Academic Excellence Award in recognition of professional achievement and academic excellence in the research, service, and teaching of education, Capstone College of Education Society, The University of Alabama; Teaching Excellence Award; Distinguished Service Award — Who's Who in the State of Tennessee; The University of Memphis Distinguished Administrator of the Year 1995-1996, "Educator on the Move," the University of Memphis; Phi Delta Kappa, the Presidents award for leadership and serve to the community, Youth Services, Inc.; Who's Who in Corporate Memphis, Grace Magazine; and President Bush's Community Service Award, just to name a few. Essex has published numerous articles, book chapters, and newsletters on legal issues. Many of his works appear in *The Administrator's Notebook*, *The Horizon*, *Compensation Review*, *The Clearinghouse*, *The American School Board Journal*, *American Management Association*, *Community College Review*, *Education and Law*, and many other professional journals. He is highly sought by educators at all levels to share his knowledge and expertise regarding legal issues that impact public schools.

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