

## Editor's Note: 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special Issue, Part 1

Joshua Kunnath  
*JSARD Editor*

---

This special issue is the first part of a two-part series celebrating the fifth anniversary of the *Journal of School Administration Research and Development* (JSARD). As an editor of JSARD, I am proud to be a part of the journal's ongoing efforts to publish and disseminate relevant, high-quality literature in educational leadership in order to empower researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to improve K-12 schools. JSARD is open-access; we offer our content free of cost in an effort to reach and engage with as large of an audience as possible, particularly those who may find the costs that often accompany academic journals to be a barrier to reading quality educational literature.

Of course any success that JSARD has achieved thus far is due to a team effort. While I currently serve as an editor, I began my service in 2016 as a copy editor. So I would like to recognize the efforts of the founding editors, Dr. Brandon Palmer and Dr. James Mullooly, for starting this venture five years ago. Further, I would like to thank the members of JSARD's editorial team, our peer reviewers, and our copy editors for their hard work over the years.

The two-part special issue series that we present to you focuses on a topic of dire importance in today's world: *school leadership during a global pandemic*. At the time of publication of this issue, the end of the global pandemic is nowhere in sight. In fact, rising COVID-19 cases around the United States and the world forecast ongoing challenges well into 2021. And of course as we consider our health and safety, we must also contemplate the education of our youth. Thus, educational leaders are called upon to make many decisions with significant implications for our nation's future: our children. So more than ever, these leaders must make decisions that are largely informed by relevant and credible literature. It is in this context that I present this special issue.

Part one, presented here, is composed of nine short essays that address multiple elements of school leadership during the global pandemic. These elements include perfect attendance, grading, mindfulness, co-teaching, adaptive leadership, dual credit, principal preparation, first-hand administrator accounts, and one-to-one laptop policies. The essays are meant to be concise and practical to provide leaders with some guidance in the many issues with which they are faced.

I hope that you enjoy this issue. But more importantly, I hope that it can be of some use to you in your work—in whatever leadership capacity you hold.

Sincerely,

*Joshua Kunnath, EdD*