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A final note for administrators reading this book: It’s not a relentless focus on improving test scores that raises test scores. It’s a relentless focus on optimizing the effectiveness of how students are taught before the tests are given that raises test scores. And that’s what this book is all about.

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The authors, husband-and-wife team of John Hollingsworth and Dr. Silvia Ybarra, are cofounders of DataWORKS Educational Research. The information in this book is based on their experiences in education and their 20 years of field work with DataWORKS working with teachers and students across the United States and around the world, most recently in Australia and China.

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John Hollingsworth and Silvia Ybarra are coauthors of *Explicit Direct Instruction: The Power of the Well-Crafted, Well-Taught Lesson* (2009), *Explicit Direct Instruction for English Learners* (2013), and along with Joan Ardovino, *Multiple Measures: Accurate Ways to Assess Student Achievement* (2000).

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