

# Lead With C.A.R.E.

## Strategies to Build Culturally Competent and Affirming Schools

Lionel E. Allen Jr.

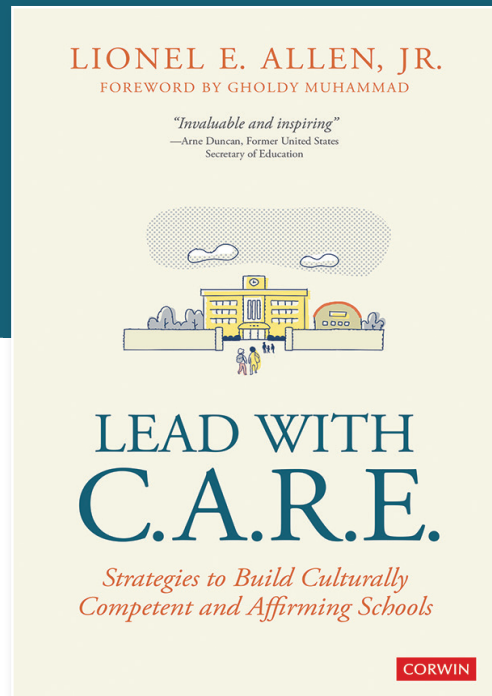
### From the foreword by Gholdy Muhammad...

"In *Lead With C.A.R.E.*, Dr. Allen provides a way to disrupt the harms that systems, teachers, and leaders may inflict on children. He uses the richness of his personal and professional experiences to speak to the true purpose and power of schools, which is to disrupt disparities and affirm students' cultural identities and brilliance. In doing so, Dr. Allen reminds educators that we must examine the structures of education historically and in the present so that we can dismantle harmful practices.

The framework of C.A.R.E. presented here guides educators to lead with **C**ulturally Responsiveness in teaching and learning, while **A**ffirming children's identities, and building positive **R**elationships with youth. Dr. Allen posits that this leads to spaces of **E**mpowerment.

This book provides *the what, the why* and importantly, *the how*. The C.A.R.E. framework helps leaders center the genius and joy of youth and teachers, while recognizing the social times we live in and elevating the education of children, especially those who have been historically excluded in schooling and in society. The framework provides a way forward for leaders to lead differently—with care, belonging, and excellence; providing every child with what they deeply deserve."

With learning goals, summaries, and reflection questions included in each chapter, this guide offers actionable strategies educators can use to establish a culture that prioritizes students' experiences and affirms their identities.



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### FIVE STAR REVIEWS



"Dr. Lionel Allen's book is an extraordinary tool for collective change. If teams of teachers and school leaders were to read and discuss Dr. Allen's book together, it is hard to imagine them emerging from the experience unmoved."

—Steven E. Tozer  
Professor Emeritus, University  
of Illinois Chicago