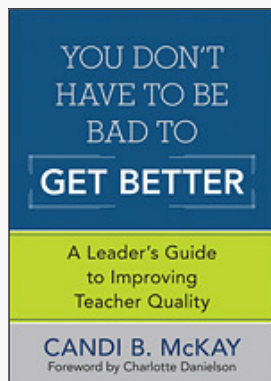


# You Don't Have to Be Bad to Get Better

A Leader's Guide to Improving Teacher Quality



Candi B. McKay

President, McKay Consulting, LLC

Electronic Version	01-09-2013	ISBN: 9781452290317	\$27.95
Paperback	12-20-2012	ISBN: 9781452240879	\$27.95

Foreword by Charlotte Danielson

## **Take your school to the next level!**

What are the attributes of strong instructional leaders? How are they able to effect changes in teaching practice that has remained virtually the same for decades? This practical guide is about school leadership, but with a laser-like focus on what it takes to develop, support, and sustain quality teaching in any school environment.

Grounded in research and over a decade of experience working in schools throughout the country, ***You Don't Have to Be Bad to Get Better*** offers school leaders at every level the guidance, specific tools, and resources they need to increase teacher—and student—success. School leaders will develop:

- Strategies for transitioning from a culture of fear and criticism to a culture of learning
- The tools needed to hire, grow, and improve the quality of teachers under their leadership
- A blueprint for engaging teachers in their own professional growth
- A deep understanding of the role of district office personnel in improving both teaching and learning

Research shows that the most important factor in student learning is the quality of the teacher in the classroom. Bring out the best in your teachers through strong instructional leadership and watch student learning soar!

*"I'm already thinking of how to incorporate what I've learned from the book into my practice and staff professional development!"*

—Frank Chiki, Principal

Chamiza Elementary School, Albuquerque, NM

*"McKay has developed a user-friendly guide to thinking about and assessing current practice in an effort to move everyone forward. This is a valuable text for study by collaborative teacher and administrator groups who are interested in improving their professional practice."*

—Bernadette Cleland, Co-Founder

Teaching & Learning Solutions

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# You Don't Have to Be Bad to Get Better

## A Leader's Guide to Improving Teacher Quality



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## A Leader's Guide to Improving Teacher Quality



Skillful Questioning  
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Key Points about What Leaders Need to Know  
Putting Words into Action  
Reflecting on Your Current State  
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## A Leader's Guide to Improving Teacher Quality



Increased Accountability for Leaders  
Creating a Culture for Professional Learning: A Case Study  
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## FEATURES/NEW TO THIS EDITION

- Identifies and describes the attributes of school leaders that enable them to improve the quality of teaching and learning.
- Explores what leaders need to understand about teaching in order to effectively facilitate improvements in practice.
- Describes what teachers need to know so that they can be active participants in their own learning and then provides a field tested model of how to embed this learning within the school so that it is sustainable over time.
- Explains the importance of conversation in promoting teacher learning, providing a field-tested protocol for conducting conversations with teachers as a follow up to formal and informal classroom visits.
- Includes the role of district office administrators in improving teacher quality and offers guidance on principal/district leader collaboration.
- Includes numerous field-tested tools and samples to support implementation of strategies.

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