



Race to the Bottom: Corporate School Reform and the Future of Public Education

Michael V. McGill

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How did the country that invented the modern public school end up embracing policies that weaken it? What alternatives are there to current corporate reform policies? How can we give America's children an education that will truly prepare them and our nation for the challenges of tomorrow? In *Race to the Bottom*, McGill successfully traces the emergence of corporate reform and describes how its tenets run counter to what he believes are the key elements of a high-quality education. McGill draws from a wealth of experience as a school superintendent for over 40 years, including his tenure in Scarsdale during the 2001 district-wide boycott of New York State standardized tests. Showing how strong leaders working with teachers and the community have been able to strengthen schools, the author offers a model of school reform that will prepare students for the 21st century.

“An acute analysis of the failure of corporate school reform, a sobering tale of its damages, and an urgent call for changing course, all from a veteran education leader of the nation's best schools.”

—**Yong Zhao**, internationally known scholar, author, and speaker

“Into an often toxic, unreasoning, and polarized education debate, Michael McGill introduces a much needed voice of reason, experience, and hope. McGill is a rare combination of experienced day-to-day practitioner of public school teaching and administration, and cogent historical analyst of the American education system. If you're looking for an overview that combines passion for education with an unerring feeling of veracity, this is the place to find it.”

—**Nicholas Lemann**, Pulitzer-Moore Professor and Dean Emeritus at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.

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