Summary

You’re an assistant principal. Whatever your status – the sole AP in your school, one of two or more APs in your school, career AP, an AP aspiring to the principalship – yours is one of the most misunderstood and underutilised positions in education. Positioned between teachers and the principal, you are an instructional leader. However, you are not the leader of the school. Therefore, you must carefully navigate your way to ensure that you thrive in your role without ‘stepping on the toes’ of your principal.

In The assistant principal 50, award-winning, four-time principal Baruti Kafele presents reflective questions that encompass the breadth and depth of the assistant principalship – from finding your leadership ‘lane’ to thriving and being an asset to your principal. Kafele infuses the book – which includes guidance and insights for the principals and aspiring assistant principals – from beginning to end with personal anecdotes and accounts of both failures and successes from his years as an assistant principal. He arms you with tools and insights that will drive you to view the assistant principalship as critical to the climate and culture of your school as well as to student achievement.

You, the assistant principal, play a critical role in your school’s success. The questions that Kafele asks you to consider will aid you as you hone your leadership skills toward becoming an effective leader in your school.

Other resources

- The principal 50: Critical leadership questions for inspiring schoolwide excellence (115050)
- The aspiring principal 50: Critical questions for new and future school leaders (120023)
- Great assistant principals and the (great) principals who mentor them (EYE2035)