Comments on a Letter

Gainesville, Florida
January 23, 1961

Editor, Educational Leadership
Dear Sir:

I am particularly glad to respond to Arthur Adkins' comments concerning my article on the "Role of the Director of Instruction," which appeared in the November 1960 issue of Educational Leadership. I can find little in his comments with which I wish to disagree.

My purpose in the original article was to stimulate the process of role definition and I believe that Adkins has given further impetus to this process in the questions which he has raised. Basically, however, I believe that we are talking about different roles and different positions.

With him, I would assert that there is need for many "service" roles and for consultative help of many types within an instructional leadership staff. But the individuals fulfilling these service needs should work and plan together and this, I believe, requires that someone actively engage in the seven areas of leadership responsibility which I described in the November article. If these responsibilities are not performed by the assistant superintendent for instruction, then they are presumably the responsibility of, and to be performed by, the school superintendent. Experience often shows that the superintendent is too busy with more pressing matters and is, perhaps, inadequately prepared professionally in the curriculum field to function appropriately in all of these areas.

I am looking forward to continuing this discussion in person with Arthur Adkins this summer when I am to serve as visiting professor at the University of Utah. I am sure that he joins me in hoping that other readers of Educational Leadership will also find this discussion of the role of the director of instruction to be challenging and interesting.

Sincerely,
C. Glen Hass
Professor of Education and Director, Laboratory School
University of Florida, Gainesville

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First announcement—

The NEA Convention will be June 24-26 in Atlantic City
ASCD Meeting at that Convention, June 26, 2:00-4:00 p.m.