

# Schoolhouses Courthouses And Statehouses Solving The Funding Achievement Puzzle In Americas Public Schools

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from the magisterial to the mundane achievements play a role in the best kind of human life and many people think that they are of such importance that they are worth pursuing at the expense of serious sacrifices yet for all that no philosophers have devoted more than a few short passages to discerning what makes achievements valuable or even what makes something an achievement to begin with gwen bradford presents the first systematic account of what achievements are and what it is about them that makes them worth doing it turns out that more things count as achievements than we might have thought and that what makes them valuable isn't something we usually think of as good it turns out that difficulty perhaps surprisingly plays a central part in characterizing achievements and their value achievements are worth the effort but just what does it mean for something to be difficult and why is it valuable a thorough analysis of the nature of difficulty is given and ultimately the best account of the value of achievements taps into perfectionist axiology but not just any perfectionist theory of value will do and in this book we see a new perfectionist theory developed that succeeds in capturing the value of achievement better than its predecessors

many factors complicate the education of urban students among them have been issues related to population density racial ethnic cultural and linguistic diversity poverty racism individual and institutional and funding levels although urban educators have been addressing these issues for decades placing them under the umbrella of urban education and treating them as a specific area of practice and inquiry is relatively recent despite the wide adoption of the term a consensus about its meaning exists at only the broadest of levels in short urban education remains an ill defined concept this comprehensive volume addresses this definitional challenge and provides a 3 part conceptual model in which the achievement of equity for all regardless of race gender or ethnicity is an ideal that is central to urban education the model also posits that effective urban education requires attention to the three central issues that confronts all education systems a accountability of individuals and the institutions in which they work b leadership which occurs in multiple ways and at multiple levels and c learning which is the *raison d'être* of education just as a three legged stool would fall if any one leg were weak or missing each of these areas is essential to effective urban education and affects the others

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in educational inequality and school finance bruce d baker offers a comprehensive examination of how us public schools receive and spend money drawing on extensive longitudinal data and numerous studies of states and districts he provides a vivid and dismaying portrait of the stagnation of state investment in public education and the continuing challenges of achieving equity and adequacy in school funding baker explores school finance the school and classroom resources derived from school funding and how and why those resources matter he provides a critical examination of popular assumptions that undergird the policy discourse around school funding notably that money doesn t matter and that we are spending more and getting less and shows how these misunderstandings contribute to our reluctance to increase investment in education at a time when the demands on our educational system are rising through an introduction to the concepts of adequacy equity productivity and efficiency baker shows how these can be used to evaluate policy reforms he argues that we know a great deal about the role and importance of money in schools the mechanisms through which money matters for student outcomes and the trade offs involved and he presents a framework for designing and financing an equitable and adequate public education system with balanced and stable sources of revenue educational inequality and school finance takes an issue all too often relegated to technical experts and makes it accessible for broader public empowerment and engagement

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focuses on important scientific and technological achievements that have influenced the way in which people live and work from 1880 1994 covers 21 disciplines including agriculture astronomy biology computer science food science transportation and weapons technology

abstracts of dissertations and monographs in microform

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