

Chapter 9

Leading the Way: The Role of School Administrators in Integration

by Darlene E. Perner

A new era for integrating exceptional students began in August 1986 when an innovative education law came into effect in New Brunswick, Canada. It was introduced as Bill 85. Part of the legislation requires the integration of exceptional students. As stated in the *Working Guidelines on Integration*:

School boards are instructed to place exceptional pupils in regular classrooms with non-exceptional pupils unless such placement proves detrimental to the needs of the child or other children. Whereas formerly a case had to be made to include an exceptional pupil in a regular class, this section of the legislation requires that a case must be made to remove a child from a regular class. (New Brunswick Department of Education, 1988)

THE LEGAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF INTEGRATION

Since 1986 and the passage of Bill 85, many school districts in New Brunswick have integrated exceptional students in regu-