

School of Education Document #1191
Fall, 2026

Recommendation of the Department of Administrative Leadership, the Department of Educational Psychology, and the School of Education Faculty to move the Department of Administrative Leadership to the Department of Educational Psychology and to re-name the Department of Educational Psychology to the Department of Educational Psychology and Leadership.

Governance Path:

ACTION	Governance Review
Curricular Moves This should be more administrative - moving the code to home department	SOE Curriculum Committee October 6, 2026 APCC GCC
Educational Psychology Department name change, and dissolution of the Department of Administrative Leadership*	Administrative Leadership Approved: 4/10/2026 Educational Psychology Approved: 5/4/2026 School of Education Faculty Approved: 5/7/2026
Name Change	Senate Rules Committee
Name Change	Faculty Senate
Name Change	Provost, Chancellor December, 2026
Administrative Leadership Dept Dissolution	Faculty Senate
EFFECTIVE DATE	Fall 2027

*Information only to: CCEP dean, APCC, GFC, UW-System/Universities of Wisconsin

Recommendation:

That the School of Education Faculty recommend to the head of school/associate dean the approval of the proposal to move the Department of Administrative Leadership (its courses, curricular code, and programs) (AD LDSP) into the Department of Educational Psychology (ED PSYCH); to change the name of the Department of Educational Psychology to the Department of Educational Psychology and Leadership (Retain ED PSYCH); and to dissolve the Department of Administrative Leadership. The ED PSYCH Department will continue to live, administratively, in SOE within CCEP.

Rationale:

In order to foster stronger collaborations and facilitate research and educational innovations, the Department of Educational Psychology and the Department of Administrative Leadership have agreed to adopt the P&P documents of the Department of Educational Psychology. Also, both units have voted to name this consolidated unit the “Department of Educational Psychology & Leadership.” This name is reflective of the curricular areas that will comprise the unified Department.

This consolidation is beneficial for both entities and will result in a new name and identity for a new, merged department, while the existing programs housed under this new department retain their autonomy and their curricular codes. The chairs and other faculty of both units have been engaged in the process of combining these units.

We deem this merger to be reactive to enrollment and funding circumstances and constraints, reflective of broader national trends, and a proactive move to support the work across both units. Among the benefits of this merger is the enhanced facilitation of (interdisciplinary) research collaboration; alignment of curricular synergies, including the development of an EdD program; additional supports for graduate programs; and opportunities for students in terms of research, experiential learning, and career placement.

Financially, combining two comparatively small faculties into one will result in some cost savings (e.g., one chair rather than two). Moreover, given the increased possibilities in the new department, and plans to retain all current programs, any impact on students is only positive. We particularly anticipate a benefit to AD LDSP students who will now be housed in a department with a larger group of faculty with interests that align with their training goals.