



Curriculum Feed



Dear Scott,

On behalf of the [California ASCD Leadership Council](#), I wish you the best for a successful completion to the 2010-2011 school-year. I would also like to thank you for supporting [CASCD](#) with your interest in the Curriculum Feed and membership. Your support allows us to accomplish our mission of promoting exemplary practices to ensure that all learners reach their full potential.

Beginning in July, [Tess Johnson](#) from the Dublin Unified School District will begin her term as the President of CASCD. It's been my honor and privilege to serve as the President for the past two years.

On behalf of the CASCD Leadership Council, I wish you a great rest of the school year, and a wonderful summer.

[Mike Hendricks](#), CASCD President

Learning & Teaching Still Matter

In recent update message, **Dr. Gene Carter**, ASCD Executive Director, challenges all educators to stand tall in their profession, stay connected to current research, and to lead. He states:

June Issue

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ACSA 2011 Principals' Summer Institute

June 27-July 2 ... [details](#)

FREE Webinars:

June 14 @ 12:00 ASCD
[New Teacher Toolkit](#)

Your VOICE!

Value of each Voice, a powerful ASCD campaign. [Click to Bring your Voice.](#)

Promote Whole Child

Become an advocate for the whole child. Be a champion for ALL kids to reach their fullest potential. Plug into [ASCDC's Whole Child Initiative.](#)



"We live in a time in which knowledge is growing exponentially and our access to it is immediate. Our children are growing up in a society that is everchanging, multifaceted, nonlinear, and increasingly demanding. As a result, the importance of education and the role of teachers are moving far beyond the boundaries of conventional thinking. These changing contexts call for new pedagogies and new student-centered

learning that must draw on a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary knowledge base."

Carter warns that as educators, "we can ill afford to lose our individual sense of urgency, efficacy, or responsibility because education and teaching matter." ... [Full Article](#).

Curriculum Snack ... Involvement or Engagement

[Larry Ferlazzo](#), an English teacher at Luther Burbank High School in Sacramento, writes a powerful article encouraging educators to see families not as clients, but as partners in school and community improvement. Familiar "staff lounge" quotes such as:

- "I like teaching in this school because the parents don't bother us much."
- "I wish parents here cared enough to get their kids to do their homework."



illustrate how educators often feel about parents. Unfortunately, research and experience show that these attitudes do not lead to the kind of school-family connections that raise student achievement. Read Ferlazzo's article in the current issue of [Education Leadership](#), ASCD's flagship journal ... [full article](#).

Recommended Reads

Summer is a great time to catch up on some good Educational Reads! [Kadhir Rajagopal](#), math teacher at Grant Union High School in Sacramento, has authored a new book in the ASCD line. It's titled, [Create Success! Unlocking the Potential of Urban Students](#).



Rajagopal faced a challenging student population in his classroom work. To address the student's low expectations and poor achievement levels, Rajagopal developed a model designed to close the achievement gap in urban settings.

STEM Grants for Middle Schools

SB70 Middle Grades Career Technical Education and Career Pathways Grant Program provides \$1.8 million to fund projects Application Deadline May 11 ... [details](#).

COMMON CORE One Stop Portal

[California Common Core Standards](#)

- [Math](#)
- [ELA](#)

ASCD Special Report:

- [Common Core Primer](#)
- [ASCD curated websites](#)

PACE releases a new report that guides policy for a new generation of assessments ... [Full Report](#).

Social Networking ... Tools for Teaching and Learning

Social networking sites may allow visitors to send e-mails, post comments, build web content, and/ or take part in live chats.

Social networking is most effective when educators can link learners with others who might share their interests or when it encourages students to publish work to a larger audience. Online tools offer unique opportunities for collaboration among teachers and students. Social networking builds communication skills, creativity, and executive skills ... [read](#)

CREATE is a new instructional model. The acronym represents the six components of the model:

- C**-Culturally Responsive Instruction
- R**-Rigorous Expectations and Rewards
- E**-Essentials-focused Planning
- A**-Assessing for Mastery During Class
- T**-Test Models
- E**-Extra One-on-One Tutoring for Struggling Students



"Education is not all about testing and scores, of course. We are here to serve the students, even if it is difficult to really make a difference in their scores. We are here to affect and even save lives. We need to focus on the bigger picture and get most of our students to care about learning. Most kids will feel pride in their personal achievements and demonstrate their

abilities on standardized tests once we instill them with the confidence and drive necessary to showcase their learning. Realistically, most students-even those in the "worst" inner-city schools-are savable with a great teaching force."

Hear an Interview with the author ... [click here](#).

We encourage you to recommend a good summer-read to your colleagues: [click here](#).

Student Conversations that promote Student Success

New or Renewing [CASCD Members](#) Receive a Free Online Learning Platform. [Collaborize Classroom](#) is an online learning platform that allows teachers to extend their classroom discussions to a structured and private online community. Thousands of teachers are using Collaborize Classroom to engage their students in online activities, assignments and discussions that allow for deeper participation inside and outside the classroom.



Collaborize Classroom is a great way to engage your students in a world they already know!

"From the initial invite to participating, Collaborize is incredibly easy to use." - **Darian Tucker**, High School History Teacher

"Collaborize Classroom is an awesome tool to facilitate discussions in (and out of) the classroom. The format of Collaborize makes it flexible enough to use in any classroom and in a way that works for you." - **iLearn Technology Blog**

[Get started now](#) with your free online learning platform.

Digital Snack: *The Digital Learning Farms*

[Alan November](#) opens his newest article, "Years ago, when farms dominated our landscape, children were responsible for performing meaningful jobs that were vital to each family's success.

[more.](#)

Have we Child-proofed Education?



Dr. Brad Johnson and Tammy Maxson McElroy challenge educational norms with an argument that compares how we raise young children to walk and speak in the first two years then to sit-down and be quiet the next two years. Have schools taken the same approach? [Enjoy their recent blog post.](#)

Depending on their age, children would care for animals, repair farm equipment, prepare food to sell at local markets and more. Children were essential to the very survival of the family. At the same time, these jobs taught children the value of hard work, leading them to become more productive citizens within their communities as adults.

As mechanized tools and other advances developed, the work of children was replaced. To prepare for the industrial economy, students were required to attend school where teachers became central figures and where children took on more passive roles within their communities. The contributions made by children to their community shifted to the responsibility of completing schoolwork. This continuing trend contradicts a fundamental human need that draws us to make contributions to our communities.

We have come full circle as globalization quickly becomes the norm, and it may now be essential for our students to compete with peers from around the world. Today, we can restore the dignity and integrity of the child as a contributor." ... [complete article](#).

California Curriculum Nibbles

- **Spending flexibility hurts low-achieving students** ([California Watch](#))
- **May Revise** ... get the latest news ([ACSA Budget Update](#))
- Virtual **frog dissections** at Moreno Valley schools ([Press Enterprise](#))
- **Play first, lunch second** proving a success in Pleasanton Schools ([Contra Costa Times](#))
- Third Round for Race to the Top Competition ([NY Times](#))
- New EdSource Study exams 8th grade **math placement in California** ([EdSource](#))
- **Tim Landeck** translates the value of Ed Tech to check-writers ([Portical Blog](#))
- California budget expected to rise in next 4 years ([SF Chronicle](#))
- High Schools begin to **tie standardized scores to course grades** ([LA Times](#))
- **Librarians make their case** before "district court" ([LA Times](#))
- National Energy Education Development **program launched in California** ([Ventura Star](#))

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