



PASCD Newsletter



“Educators impacting teaching and learning through leadership”

MARCH 2016

President’s Message

What I Am Reading...

I love books. Books take you places, challenge your thinking, expose you to new ideas. I am always ordering, and now



downloading, books. Recently, I started reading *Most Likely to Succeed: Preparing Our Kids for the Innovation Era*, and I couldn’t put it down! Written by Tony Wagner and Ted Dintersmith, it not only exposed the reader to the need for educational reform but made an extremely persuasive case that schools must change now.

We all realize schools of today are really the schools of yesterday. Created for a bygone era, schools

haven’t kept pace with preparing students for the reality of 2016.

A powerful analogy presented in the books is that of teaching a child to ride a bike. The approach of our traditional educational system would be to teach the student all of the parts of the bike, the history of a bike, and the physics associated with powering the bike, followed by a multiple-choice assessment. Not very engaging.

Rather, today’s society demands that students take the bike apart, put it back together, discover what powers it, join in teams to ride bikes ..the essence of critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication, not disconnected memorization of information that can be summoned in sheer seconds with the smartphone carried in their backpack.

The good news is, schools are changing. There has been a surge of makerspaces and learning experiences emphasizing innovation

and problem-solving. Students are designing, building, and creating. Examples such as this make me confident we can push past the antiquated industrial-age model of education toward an educational system centered on creativity, personalized learning, and digital-age skills.

Happy reading,
Lori

Dr. Lori J. Stollar
PASCD President

Most Likely to Succeed: Preparing Our Kids for the Innovation Era by Tony Wagner and Ted Dintersmith, Scribner, 296 pages.

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Update from the Influence Committee



Dr. Dean Maynard

What an exciting time it is for political action and involvement! There is much discussion taking place at the national level about the Every Student Succeeds Act and how it compares to the former ESEA Reauthorization. It was disappointing earlier this year that the Annual LILA event in Washington, DC, was cancelled, but an update follows for your information and use.

Even though Winter Storm Jonas caused the cancellation of this year's Leadership Institute for Legislative Advocacy (LILA), there is much to share from the materials that were prepared for the event. The ASCD Legislative Agenda for 2016 begins "Effective communities strive to collaboratively support the whole child and envision school success in terms of students and staff who are healthy, safe, engaged, supported and challenged. Conditions for creating a system that supports the whole learner include the assurance of equity and access to high-quality educational opportunities."

ASCD calls on policymakers and stakeholders to align educational programs and create a coherent system to support and develop the whole learner, from early childhood to graduation. Establishing the following policy recommendations

will promote the success of students, educators, schools, communities, and the nation.

CONDITIONS FOR LEARNING

A foundation of systemic support-across families, schools, and communities-is necessary for students to achieve and thrive. Now, more than ever, the development and growth of the whole child must be systemically promoted through:

Personalized learning and a well-rounded education.

Social-emotional learning and instruction.

Culturally relevant and identity-affirming curricula and learning environments.

Meaningful partnerships and engagement with students, families, businesses and community organizations.

Funding that is robust, equitable, and recognized as an investment priority.

The accessibility of community- and school-based extended learning opportunities.

Restorative rather than punitive approaches to student discipline.

Transitional supports to prepare students for postsecondary pursuits.

The availability of community- and school-based mental health services.

Interagency collaboration across all entities that support children.

WHOLE CHILD ACCOUNTABILITY

As schools and communities embrace a broader, more comprehensive definition of student success that prepares graduates for college, career, citizenship, and lifelong learning, next generation accountability systems must:

Incorporate multiple measures of performance for students, educators and

schools that include data beyond test scores and capture conditions for learning.

Include community level data to highlight our shared responsibility for student success.

Provide the public with clear and understandable information of performance and progress.

Promote the personalized and protected use of qualitative and quantitative data for decision making.

Create a model for continuous improvement and promote a growth mindset.

Support flexibility and autonomy in decision making while maintaining a focus on ongoing support for the most in-need students.

EDUCATOR LEADERSHIP AND SUPPORT

Teachers and school leaders are the two most important in-school factors for student achievement, and they deserve the recognition and resources to maximize student learning and prepare our young people for the future. Policymakers must ensure that each student has access to effective educators by:

Making necessary investments in time and resources to support educators along the entire career continuum, from induction and mentoring to career ladders and varied teacher leadership opportunities.

Providing personalized professional development that is strengths-based and needs-aligned and that encourages collaboration and a culture of ongoing learning,

Providing incentives for both retaining effective educators and recruiting high-achieving students to enter the profession.

Offering flexibility in routes to licensure while maintaining rigorous professional standards.

Fostering collaboration between institutions of higher education and local districts regarding educator preparation programs.

Many of us are planning our annual Spring Legislative Meetings to be held within our region as we share these materials and much more with the elected policymakers and decision makers that represent us at the local, state and national levels. We have an exciting primary and general election ahead of us.

There are additional resources available at www.educatoradvocates.org, and www.ascd.org/legislativeagenda

PASCD Evaluation Academy

The PASCD Evaluation Academy was held at the PASCD annual conference in Monroeville November 15 and 16. The academy had 16 participants that included principals, curriculum directors, superintendents and an aspiring principal who is currently a teacher. Dr. Cathleen Cubelic and I were absolutely thrilled with this group of participants' dedication during the two long days of the academy that began at 8:00 a.m. each morning and concluded at 5:00 p.m. The extended hours were scheduled so the academy participants could attend the general sessions during the first two days of the conference.

The participants were very engaging in their discussions with each other and the facilitators. Their comments adding to the instruction demonstrated to us that they had a solid understanding of the *PDE Measuring Teacher Effectiveness Model*. We felt guilty at times when we had to stop the discussions so we could continue in the required ITQ

content of the academy. We will be doing day 3 of the academy for this group at the North Hills Middle School in the North Hills School District January 20. We are looking forward to working with this great group of people during our final session.

We would like to bring the academy to your area of the state. If you are a curriculum director at an IU, please contact me and I can discuss hosting the academy with you. The requirements for the host of the academy are minimal, however the benefits are huge. If your district administrators are struggling with the Measuring Teacher Effectiveness evaluations or the teacher evaluation process in general, this academy will be very beneficial in increasing their knowledge base in this area. We had a great academy experience at IU #17 in August with 22 participants. The three-day academy can be offered in three consecutive days or can be separated over a period of time. We can also bring the academy to an individual school district or a group of school districts that want to come together to host it. If you are interested in hosting the PASCD Evaluation Academy, please contact me at rwilliam3@verizon.net.

Dr. Robert L. Williams
PASCD Chair of Supervision and Evaluation

PASCD Annual Awards

Congratulations to the 2015 PASCD Annual Award Recipients!

Supervision and Curriculum Development Award

The PASCD Supervision and Curriculum Development Award is

presented to a PASCD member who has made a significant contribution in the area of supervision and/or curriculum development.
Congratulations to Dr. Robert Williams!



Dr. Lori Stollar and Dr. Robert Williams

Robert V. Flynn Memorial Distinguished Service Award

The Robert V. Flynn Memorial Distinguished Service Award is presented to a PASCD member who has demonstrated a commitment to serving and enriching the organization. **Congratulations to Dr. Dean Maynard!**



Dr. Lori Stollar, Dr. Dean Maynard, Dr. Jeff Taylor

Outstanding Research and Publication Award

The Outstanding Research and Publication Award is presented to a PASCD member who has researched and published within the past two years (July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2015). **Congratulations to Dr. Robert Furman!**

President's Award

The President's Award is presented to a PASCD member chosen by the PASCD President to honor the recipient for outstanding contribution to the organization. **Congratulations to Dr. Cathleen Cubelic!**



Dr. Lori Stollar, Dr. Cathleen Cubelic, Dr. Jeff Taylor

Social Media Corner

Like us on the PASCD Facebook page. We were at the PASCD conference and in November, we saw a nice bounce from the conference which has continued through today.

On Twitter, we currently have many followers. Again, we saw a nice increase from the November conference and just as with Facebook, these numbers do fluctuate based on a variety of factors.

PASCD members are encouraged to share this with their colleagues to follow us on social media. For

Facebook, all people have to do is go to <https://www.facebook.com/paeducators/> and click on the "Like" button at the top of the page. On Twitter, go to <https://twitter.com/pascd> and click on "Follow" at the top of the page.

Regional Update Delaware Valley Region DIGITAL LITERACY AND LEADERSHIP

Submitted by Meredith Denovan

On Wednesday, October 21st, the Delaware Valley Region of the PA Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (DVR-PASCD), Neumann University, and the Southeast PA Association for Educational Communications and Technology (Southeast PAECT) partnered once again for an exciting afternoon of professional development for educators in the region. The workshop, Digital Literacy and Leadership: Great Potential- Great Challenges, featured a menu of innovative and informative sessions from which participants could choose.

Joe Sanfelippo, school superintendent and co-author of the book, *The Power of Branding: Telling Your School's Story*, was the opening speaker. He discussed the importance of branding in education and shared concrete suggestions to help participants create a positive brand presence in their schools. Each attendee was given a complimentary copy of Dr. Sanfelippo's book.

Attendees then chose to attend a session geared to Digital Leadership or Digital Literacy. The information-packed Digital Leadership/Literacy sessions included:

Digital Communication Strategies to Brand Yourself and Your District presented by Ross Cooper, Supervisor of Instructional Practice K-

12, Salisbury Township School District

eBooks, iBooks, & Databases, Oh My! –Consideration of Digital Content presented by Corey Adams, Publisher Representative and Digital Integration Consultant

Exploring the Process of Launching, Evaluating, and Assessing your Digital Learning Initiative presented by Randy Ziegenfuss, Superintendent, and Lynn A. Fuini- Hetten, Assistant Superintendent, both from Salisbury Township School District

I Wonder... Embedding Inquiry Across the Curriculum presented by Christy Brennan, Technology Coordinator, William Penn Charter School.

PA Educational Leadership Summit

The PA Principals Association in conjunction with three other educational organizations will be offering an Educational Leadership Summit in State College from July 24-26, 2016. REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN, but it is limited to the first 400 participants. If you need Act 45 hours, this summit will award 50 PIL hours upon completion of the required assignments. Please see the link below for registration information:

<http://bit.ly/1No46of> - http://r2o.rs6.net/t.n.jsp?f=00148uectU-EoelOU1oqn8NLPss6toh66FLjz7zSpIWd0cjFXmBqDpprAhoX1YuDa31G6AAzleXiYL8GrZIVp8MfyDeA66RD1jjBGXF91kgA3Z5v7xuqjZeoVv-XUhwfwojybybZrimYrUaDW_T3yMNI83cnFAYxPYCc2llg7VEw4b4=&c=hDvz7eGS21VMZpGyeHqtla94kQ1glYGxikJFF-ex1qwlYHGF6VbtKw==&ch=t_1oYAZqF2z2FGL5kmmgc-zv-myKECV5uCVKRJAtVf2neVyjgrosAw==

