



## Curriculum Feed | Winter

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### NEW WORKSHOPS COMING TO TOWN



#### Going Beyond ... Using Assessment to Increase Learning

presented by Dr. Doug Fisher  
in partnership with Montebello USD  
January 13 in Montebello | 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
[REGISTER TODAY!](#)

#### Tools & Age

presented by Jason  
in partnership with  
January 26 in  
January 27 in  
[REGISTER TODAY!](#)



#### Leading, Learning, and Producing Knowledge in the Digital

Borgen & Devin Vodicka  
Dublin USD & Clovis USD  
Dublin | 1:30 PM - 5:30 PM  
Clovis | 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM



#### Maximize Learning with Common Core & 21st Century Skills

presented by Dr. Sue Beers  
in partnership with Tulare COE  
March 12 in Tulare | 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
[REGISTER TODAY!](#)

#### CORPORATE PARTNERS

[SunGuard K-12](#)  
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[Pearson](#)  
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#### Educator Input Needed!

The CDE is [calling educators](#) to provide input on the revision of the [Mathematics Framework](#).  
- Focus Group Application ([click here](#))  
Applications are due **Jan 5, 2012**

#### Kindergarten Readiness Act

California lawmakers recently passed the Kinder-

## CURRICULUM SNACK: Stretching Technology Dollars

[Doug Johnson](#), Technology Director for Mankato School District in Minnesota, states that "Schools in the United States spend a lot of money on education technology-estimated soon to be \$56 billion dollars-36 percent of which is spent in K-12 education. That's about \$400 per student per year. As district budgets shrink, technology departments will most certainly be affected." Johnson provides 10 pearls of wisdom on how to stretch your technology dollars ([more](#)).



Enjoy reading the most recent edition of [Educational Leadership](#), the flagship journal of ASCD. [Click here for full article](#).

## How Preschool helps Kids Grow

A generation ago, formal early childhood education basically meant kindergarten ... and not every child necessarily enrolled. More recently, there have been calls for making prekindergarten universal in U.S. public schools, as it is in many European nations.

The [current issue of ASCD Express](#) explores answer to the following questions:

- *What are the benefits of formalized early childhood schooling?*
- *In the modern context of two parents working or single parenthood, and especially for poor children in urban areas, how does preschool provide significant advantages that can set up a child for successful adulthood?*
- *In the debate over playtime versus school time, what should developmentally appropriate early childhood learning look like, and does the reality of current preschools match that vision?*

## Get to the Core - ASCD archives popular Webinars

The popular series of **FREE Webinars** produced by ASCD called "**Get to the Core**" is now Archived for your viewing ([click for details](#)).

[Common Core 101 by John Kendall](#)

[Policy & Implementation by David Griffith & Efrain Mercado](#)

[The Common Core of a Whole Child by Molly McCloskey](#)

## RECOMMENDED READS: Lost & Found

garten Readiness Act ([Sacramento Bee article](#)).

Law firm Lozano Smith provides a FREE webinar on the new legislation that will affect all Kindergarten teachers.

[Recording link](#)

Password:

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### BUDGET MATTERS

Get the latest news on the California budget from our friends at [ACSA](#) ... [click here](#).

### FREE Webinars

**Dec 7 @ 10:30**

"Strategies for School Turnaround" ([WestEd](#))

### The Whole Child!

Access ASCD's [Whole Child portal](#) to find out how to increase [home & school partnerships](#). [Listen to the Podcast](#).

### Google Docs improve Writing

Learn how middle school students are using Google Docs to improve their love for writing ([click here](#)).

### Funding Flexibility

**Dr. Gene Carter**, ASCD Executive Director, cautions lawmakers to avoid replacing new mandates for old

For over 20 years, [Dr. Jamie McKenzie](#) has enticed educators to engage students toward higher levels of thought using the modern tools of our age. His latest papback, [Lost and Found ... A guide to discovery learning through purposeful wandering](#), offers educators a clear set of guiding principles to apply so that students are ready for tomorrow's world.



The central thesis of the book is the charge to educators to challenge students to love the mystery and to search deeper when the "cut & paste" answers doesn't fit. The book shows how wandering purposefully may open many doors, windows and pathways that might otherwise remained closed. McKenzie demonstrates how the answer to a great education is found in the ability to ask a great question. CASCD invites you to [recommend a good read](#) to your colleagues ... we just might publish your review in our next Curriculum Feed ... [click here to submit a summary](#).

ones in an effort to increase funding flexibility ([article](#)).

### The Real World

Bruce Oliver from [Just ASK Publications & Professional Development](#) provides us with a reality check on "learning outcomes" for the real world ([click here](#)).

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## DIGITAL SNACK: Carmen San Diego Syndrome



National speaker and author on all things ed-tech, [Susan Brooks-Young](#) warns educators to be prudent when purchasing tablet apps. In [TBLOGICAL](#), the TICAL blog, Brooks-Young states, *"Educators all over the country are exploring ways they can use iPads and other tablet technologies as tools for teaching and learning. Apps-free and low cost programs designed to be used on these devices are a primary attraction. What better way to provide quick and easy access to instructional activities than by downloading and using some of the thousands of education apps? But I'm noticing a troubling trend"* ([more](#)).

For additional clarity on the subject, check out Kathy Schrock's [Bloomin' iPad](#), a matrix of apps that address specific levels of Blooms Taxonomy.

## CURRICULUM NIBBLES: The Latest News in California Education

- CDE Honors **2012 Teachers of the Year** ([California Department of Education](#))
- **Lauren Kinney**, Beaumont principal, accepts National Honor ([Banning-Beaumont Patch](#))
- California's **Race to the Top application** deemed "incomplete" ([Fresno Bee](#))
- Occupy LA offers **hands-on civics lesson** ([LA Times](#))
- Governor releases **12-point pension reform plan** ([ACSA](#))
- California survey suggests **teacher reviews** should be made public ([LA Times](#))
- State Superintendent call for **suspension of NCLB sanctions** ([SF Chronicle](#))
- Budget **shortfall threatens shorter year** ([EdSource](#)) ([San Diego Union](#))
- **Lower state revenues** could trigger school cuts ([SF Examiner](#))
- Santa Ana **schools honored for increased attendance** ([Orange County Register](#))
- **Charter organization expands its footprint** in Santa Clara ([Silicon Valley Ed](#))
- Coachella Valley Chief advocates **mobile devices for every child** ([PS Desert Sun](#))
- Fresno USD to **hire more teachers** ([Fresno Bee](#))
- ACSA releases Recommendations for the Reauthorization of ESEA ([ACSA](#))
- Educators use "process method" to bring history to life ([Anderson Valley Post](#))

- California joins national effort to produce **Next Generation Science Standards** ([Achieve](#))

## 3 ways to Join!

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