



Curriculum Feed - May



From the President's Desk ...

Greetings and much appreciation to California teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week. On behalf of the **CASCD Leadership Council**, I'd like to express my gratitude and appreciation to California teachers who are dedicated, talented, and committed to students every day. The wonderful learning and teaching opportunities, along with the guidance and support that teachers provide, are the reason that California schools are so successful.

In May, CASCD is offering two symposiums with the focus on closing the achievement gap. There are still spaces available. The May 17th and May 21st symposiums are entitled **Implementing the Key Principles of Equity** will be presented by Dr. Edwin Javius from EDEquity, Inc. Dr. Javius has helped districts and school sites design, implement, and sustain promising practices to close the achievement gap by looking at equity issues. Dr. Javius will present key principles of awareness, attitudes, action and accountability as a systematic approach to improving student achievement for all students.

For more information, please see the [event flyer](#) on our website. On behalf of the CASCD Leadership Council, I wish you great success during this busy time of the school year.

Join Our Mailing List!



Closing the Achievement Gap Symposium

May 17 (Alhambra)

Or

May 21 (Dublin)

Register Today!

Linking Literacy Inspires Learning
May 8
Concordia University,
Irvine
[click to register](#)

Quick Links

EDUCATION PARTNERS

[ACSA](#) | [CUE](#) | [TICAL](#)
[CASCD](#) | [ASCD](#)

CORPORATE PARTNERS

[Concordia University](#)
[SMART Technologies](#)

[Mike Hendricks](#), CASCD President

San Francisco shares model for success

San Francisco's Marshall Elementary School has been successful in its efforts to improve student performance, and national education leaders are taking notice. Implementing a dual-language immersion program, creating a school culture that engages parents and hiring quality staff -- including teachers, a social worker, a nurse and a paid parent liaison -- are some of the factors that have brought about the school's success, according to parents and educators who spoke with Deputy Education Secretary Tony Miller at the school. [San Francisco Chronicle](#) (4/20).

Representing Knowledge Nonlinguistically

The May issue of [Educational Leadership](#) published an article by [Dr. Robert Marzano](#) on the five important characteristics of nonlinguistic representations that teachers should consider. He suggests that "Nonlinguistic representations are one of many powerful techniques available to classroom teachers. When used well, they can have a positive effect on student achievement and provide diversity in the way that students process new information" ... [more](#).



California teachers view NCLB unfavorably

Many teachers in California are critical of the guidelines set forth under No Child Left Behind, according to a recent study by a high-school teacher and a researcher at the University of California, Riverside. The study found that 84% of teachers viewed NCLB unfavorably. Many educators say the law's requirements force them to spend too much time preparing struggling students for high-stakes standardized tests in English and math to the detriment of other students and subjects. [San Bernardino County Sun](#) (4/10).

Technology Motivates Middle-schoolers

A California school district has implemented a technology upgrade at all of its middle schools, thanks to a \$592,000 federal grant and private funding. The principal of one school says the new technology -- from SMART Boards to laptops to online learning -- has improved students' motivation as well as their attendance at school. "This is their medium," she said. "This is their future." [Daily Breeze](#) (Torrance 4/18).

[Holt McDougal](#)
[Renaissance Learning](#)
[Houghton Mifflin](#)



Oregon goes Google for all public schools

Oregon will become the first state to offer the Web-based Google Apps for Education to all of its public K-12 schools. The switch to the free programs is expected to save the state \$1.5 million and expand the number and variety of tools available to schools, educators and students. [eSchool News 4/28](#)

College & Career Ready?

Learning for the 21st Century, a report from a new public-private coalition known as the [Partnership for 21st Century Skills](#), articulates a vision of how schools can best prepare students to succeed in the first decades of the 21st century. Central to the report's recommendations is a call for schools to focus on six key elements of 21st century learning

iPads in the Classroom?

The iPad offers many of the same features as the iPod Touch (internet, music, videos and so on), but most notably it is

AfterZones - citywide after-school programs

Increasingly, research has shown that participation in out-of-school-time (OST) programs can lead to improvements in youth's educational outcomes (e.g., academic achievement, school behavior, attitudes toward school, attendance and educational expectations); enhance social and emotional development (e.g., self-esteem, positive social behavior); and reduce the likelihood that they will engage in risk-taking behavior.¹ However, two conditions must exist for these benefits to accrue: The programs must be high quality and youth must participate over a sustained period of time. [Complete PDF Document](#).

Kathleen McCreery receives Robert Gray Service Award

Kathy McCreery received the ACSA Region 15 Robert Gray Service Award on April 26th. This award is made in memory of Robert Gray, who was involved in the formation of ACSA.



Kathy McCreery was an administrator for curriculum and instruction for the Baldwin Park USD and the Temple City USD. She served on ACSA's Elementary Education Committee then chaired the ACSA Curriculum and Instruction Committee. Kathy worked on the ACSA State Board of Directors and then continued as the Assistant Executive Director for Educational Services for ACSA.

Kathy plays a key role in California ASCD Leadership Council. Her depth of knowledge and experience as well as her commitment to children bring high value to CASCD's mission to support the educational community of California.

Keeping Teachers in the Profession

A study conducted by the National Education Association offers staggering statistics: Roughly 50 percent of new teachers quit the profession within five years. Particularly in the struggling schools that need them most, new teachers are less likely to stay on due to poor working conditions, low pay, and high-stress environments. What say you? Take the [Edutopia National Poll](#) then see how your

the first non-reader device that allows users to read ebooks. With California's e-Textbook initiative, this device could be a perfect match ... [more](#)



Open House Month

May is the season for schools to "Open House." Since it's about the kids then put the kids in charge. Have your students run the Open House from school tours, to performances.

[Scholastic offers a few fresh ideas](#)

Other Google Search Engines

Did you know Google has special search engines that narrow your focus on specific topics:

[Images](#)

[Google Books](#)

[Google Blog Search](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

[Google Patent Search](#)

or create your own [personal search engine](#) from links you compile.

[Flip for Better](#)

vote compares others.

Teaching

[TICAL blog](#) features [Stephen Vaughn](#), area director San Bernardino County, who suggests that teachers will be better teachers if they can see themselves teach through the unfiltered lens of a video camera. Get practical advice ... [more](#).

Digital Snack ... A Walk in the Clouds

Technology disrupts the classroom. A bad thing? Perhaps, but disruption opens the doors of possibility to reform, to innovate, to improve. Cloud Computing is such a technology that sits on the horizon of education waiting for any school leader to call it forward. Cloud computing and virtualization will be the top technology trends 2010 and priorities for CIOs in 2010 as businesses shift from traditional on-premise software and hardware to hosted solutions, according to a just released [report from The New Media Consortium](#).

Cloud computing has transformed the way we think about computing and communication, data storage and access, and collaborative work. What still remains to be developed is the capacity for the cloud to help students engage in real research and participate in global learning communities.

California Curriculum Nibbles

- [CDE Announces California Teacher of the Year 2010](#)
- California teacher strikes highlight **education budget cuts** ([SF Chronicle](#), [LA Times](#))
- **FREE** WestEd Webinar | May 5 [Infuse Culturally Responsive Instruction into Daily Teaching](#)
- California plans new approach for second round of **Race to the Top** ([LA Times](#))
- Close the **Achievement Gap Symposium** ... [May 17 \(Almador\)](#) or [May 21 \(Dublin\)](#)
- **Algebra mandates** for 8th Algebra ... SBE injunction upheld. [more](#)
- Classroom Technology Money in California **held hostage** ... [a call for Action!](#)
- **ACSA's Achievement Gap Bill** receives bipartisan support ... [more](#)
- California **Distinguished Schools** Announced ... [list of schools](#)
- California seeks to close the **STEM** gap with the [STEM Innovation Network](#)
- New CUE **iPad Workshops** in California selling fast ... [details](#)
- Mini-Conference | [Linking Literacy Inspired Learning](#) | [May 8, Concordia University, Irvine](#)



Thank you **Corporate Sponsors** for your commitment to students and educators in California.

We greatly appreciate your support.

To become a valued Corporate Sponsor please email

[Kathleen McCreery](#)

Membership and Governance Chair

Become a new member of California ASCD or renew Today! [click here](#)