



## Curriculum Feed | September

Join Our Mailing List!

Dear Scott,

Welcome to the 2011-2012 school year. It is exciting to be in a field where we all play a major role in ensuring that each learner reach his/her full potential. The [mission statement](#) for [CASCD](#) strongly affirms this focus:

*"CASCD, a diverse community of educators, is committed to promoting exemplary practices to ensure that all learners reach their full potential."*

It is backed up by our goals in our strategic plan which calls for:

- CASCD will grow and engage a diverse community by leveraging professional development to include content expertise with technology, networks, and partnerships.
- CASCD will advocate policies and practices that positively influence learning, teaching, and leadership in preparing our children to compete in a global society.
- CASCD will utilize research-based programs, products, and services that will lead educators to use best practices in learning, teaching, and leadership.
- CASCD will continually improve its operational and fiduciary effectiveness to deliver value to its constituents and achieve our organizational goals.

### NEW Workshops! ---

*"Checking for Understanding"*  
with Doug Fisher  
Jan 13, Montebello

*"Digital Leadership"*  
with Devin Vodicka &  
Jason Borgen  
Jan 27, Fresno

### CORPORATE PARTNERS

[SunGuard K-12](#)  
[Cambium Voyager](#)  
[Pearson](#)  
[Collaborize Classroom](#)  
[Houghton Mifflin](#)  
[SMART Technology](#)

### EDUCATION PARTNERS

[ACSA](#) | [CUE](#)  
[TICAL](#) | [CLRN](#)

### BUDGET MATTERS

We welcome you to utilize our resources, become a member and be our partner in ensuring each learner reach his/her full potential. It is our moral imperative especially now as our learners compete for jobs in a global society. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us.

[Tess Johnson](#), CASCD President

## Schools Turn to a New Projection Display



The compact LUCERA Projection Display is ideal for classroom projects, IEP's, parent teacher conferences, fund- raising events, conferences, school board presentations. Its outstanding performance is consistent even when ambient to bright light is present. Lucera is truly changing the way you view the world!

## Mapping the Whole Child



A [Whole Child](#) approach to education ensures that each child, in each school and in each community, is healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged. Click on the map and find inspiring examples of schools and communities putting this approach into action.

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

### FREE Webinars

Sep 14, 10:30-noon  
Common Core standards & math placement (WestEd)

### Back-to-School Apps for Teachers

It's time to get your iPad ready for school ... [click here](#).

### FREE Resources for New Teachers

As school doors swing open for the 2011-12 school year, new teachers across the world are looking for great resources to support their work. Leaders at [ASCD](#) have compiled a batch of FREEBIES ... [click here to unpack](#).

### E-Learning for Special Populations

Read the first installment of a series on virtual education. The report features articles on:

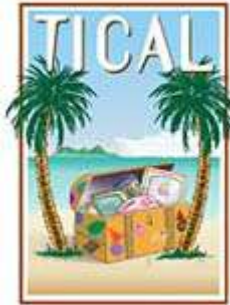
- [Funding](#)
- [Special Needs Complete Education Week Report](#).

Social Media can

Email your Whole Child story to [California ASCD](#) and add your pin!  
[Click here to add story.](#)

## DIGITAL SNACK: School Face Lift

Our partners at [TICAL](#) make it easy for busy administrators to learn new technologies with their short "[Quick Takes Tutorials](#)." Their latest installment is a short tutorial on how to create a school facebook page ... the right way.  
[Click here for details.](#)



While you are at this wonderful portal, check out the video on "[Going Paperless: Diverse Learning with iPads and Apps](#)."

## CURRICULUM SNACK: 5 Hallmarks of Good Homework



Does homework focus most often on rote learning or does it deepen understanding? [Cathy Vatterott](#) (author of [Rethinking Homework](#)) shares insights on homework tasks that exhibit key characteristics to produce better results. They include:

1. Purpose
2. Efficiency
3. Ownership
4. Competence
5. Aesthetic Appeal

Enjoy the article in this summer's edition of [Educational Leadership](#), the flagship journal of ASCD. [Click here for full article.](#)

## Common Core - A Better Vision for Assessment

Two important documents were recently released by the two groups designing tests for the new **Common Core** standards. These documents serve to explicate the standards and highlight key concepts and progressions of learning. They provide an early vision for how these standards will be assessed.

[SMARTER](#) published: [Content maps and specifications](#)

[PARCC](#) published: [Content Frameworks](#)

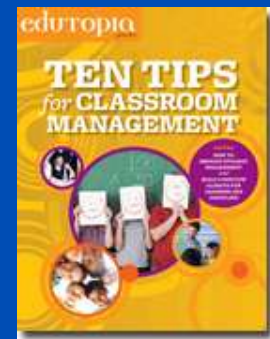
Executive summary provided by [Education Week](#) ... [click here.](#)

## RECOMMENDED READS: Great Performances

**Empower students not just connect them.**

Students get it. They understand how easy it is to connect with one another, but don't fully realize the greater potential. [Andrew Marcinek](#) challenges educators to directly teach students how to leverage social media as powerful learning tools. Find out how: [edutopia article.](#)

**Classroom Management Matters by Edutopia**



**Join ASCD EDge!**

**ASCD edge**  
A Professional Networking Community for Educators

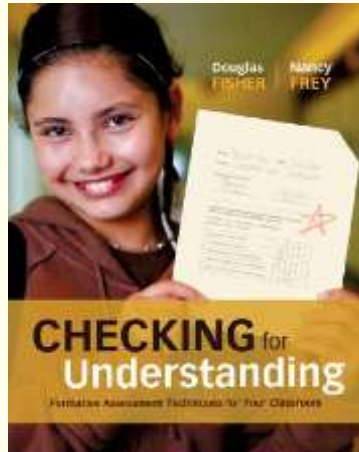
**Learning is social**  
...and so is teaching. Connect with your California colleagues and friends on ASCD EDge. [Signup TODAY for a free account.](#)

CASCD members **Janice Riddle**, Suva Elementary principal and **Teresa Alonzo**, Cesar Chavez Elementary principal offer an outstanding read for our members.

"Checking For Understanding is a practical guide of formative assessment techniques that is as valuable for teachers as it is for administrators. Fisher and Frey include a variety of engaging activities for checking for understanding at various points of learning. Teaching and learning become more connected through the use of written, verbal, and physical responses strategies such as summary writing, accountable talk, response cards and hand signals.

"These methods help guide the teacher's instruction by narrowing the focus at any given point in the lesson to ensure all students attain the targeted skill or concept. Additionally, these methods provide feedback to students so they regulate their own learning. As a result, classroom management is improved because all learners are engaged through constant interaction with the teacher and each other. While teachers will use these techniques to improve student outcomes, administrators are provided with a guide for what to look for as they monitor instruction in the classroom."

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](#).



Once you join, add **California ASCD** to **"My Groups"** and get plugged in.

## Curriculum Nibbles from California

- State Superintendent Torlakson offers "**Blueprint for Great Schools**" ([CDE](#))
- **Test scores on the rise** ([LA Times](#))
- **CDE restructures** departments ([New Org Chart](#) | [Rationale Press Release](#))
- **90% of black and Latino students pass CAHSEE** ([Inside Bay Area](#))
- SB 547 changes the **measuring stick on school performance** ([LA Times](#))
- **Teacher turnover rate high** in CA charter schools ([LA Times](#))
- **New dropout rates** reveal interesting implications ([Silicon Valley Ed](#))
- Less than half of 2010 grads had **classes needed for college** ([North County Times](#))
- **High turnover** reported among charter school teachers ([LA Times](#))
- Budget ax will land first on **school bus programs** ([SI & A Cabinet Report](#))
- LA superintendent addresses staff, vows to **cut bureaucracy** ([LA Times](#))
- Charter school association gets **\$15 million WalMart grant** ([LA Times](#))
- Plastic bag lobby gets **favorable textbook revision** ([Sacramento Bee](#))

## 3 ways to Join!

~ **Online** ... [click here!](#)

~ **Phone** ... 800.660.9899

~ **Mail** ... CASCD | PO Box 1841 | Oroville | 95965

CASCD invites **education-minded businesses** to become a [Corporate Partner](#). Email [Kathleen McCreery](#), Executive Director, to become a valued partner.

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Follow us on **Twitter** 