

# NASCD

## MISSION

NASCD, a diverse community of educators, strengthening teaching and learning through instructional leadership to achieve the success of each learner.

## GOALS

- Provide programs and services which support new images of teaching, learning and leadership
- Have an active and informed membership
- Be recognized as a credible resource regarding curriculum and instructional issues.

# News & Notes

WINTER 2009 - 2010

## Teachers Learn What's In a Word

It was all about vocabulary at NASCD's 2009 Fall Workshop on November 16 at Lincoln's Wilderness Ridge Lodge. Presenter Dr. Freddy Hiebert, adjunct professor at the University of California, Berkley, focused on vocabulary instruction and the relationship between developing vocabulary skills and improving comprehension.

Participants also learned about the importance of informational text as a context for improving vocabulary and understanding of the content.

Practical instructional strategies including vocabulary filters, vocabulary logs, and ways to incorporate the study of morphology into word studies was shared.

### Participant Comment:

"I have begun holding meetings with each of my elementary building principals to dig into the data from our initial use of ITBS in 3rd grade. In looking at the vocabulary section through item analysis, we are discovering that much of the information on word morphology from Dr. Hiebert's presentation has major implications for vocabulary instruction.

For example, what happens to a word when you add "ly" to it. Wise goes from being an adjective to being an adverb and thus takes on a different connotation when being used with the verb *choose*. (Choose wisely!) Now wise means to be cautious as well. As a result of my first such meeting, one building principal is already considering a word of the week program for vocabulary development.."  
— Dr. Rex Anderson, Director of Curriculum, Gretna Public Schools

Teacher talk about vocabulary was the highlight of the 2009 Fall Workshop for Nebraska educators last November.



## NASCD Exec Board Hosts Legislative Influence Luncheon

NASCD Executive Board members hosted state senators serving on this year's legislative session's education committee at its Influence Luncheon in Lincoln on January 13.

The purpose of the annual event was to provide an opportunity for NASCD to share information with legislators about the mission, goals, and programs of the organization including The Whole Child Initiative, which supports that children must be healthy, feel safe, be engaged in learning, be supported by caring and qualified adults, and be challenged and inspired.

Board members also were able to learn from senators about critical education issues on this session's legislative agenda.

Legislators attending the luncheon included Sen. Greg Adams, Committee Chair from York; Sen. Bill Avery, Lincoln; Sen. Abbie Cornett, Bellevue; and Sen. Robert Geise, South Sioux City.

"Sharing current information with state senators in a more informal setting was a great opportunity for the Executive Committee and hopefully for the senators," said board member Sue Anderson."

# NASCD 2010 Summer Workshop

Ten Steps to Math Success:  
Instructional Strategies that Boost Student Achievement  
*Presented by Sue O'Connell*

- Explore 10 instructional strategies that will bring excitement and understanding to your Grade 3-8 math classroom.
- Gather classroom-tested tools, strategies, and activities that strengthen students' skills from basic facts to problem solving.
- Leave with a wealth of ideas that will fit into your existing math program.

**June 18, 2010**

**8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.**

**Registration and Continental Breakfast 8:00 a.m.**

**Workshop begins at 8:30 a.m.**

Embassy Suites-Omaha-LaVista Hotel & Conference Center  
12520 Westport Parkway, LaVista, NE 68128

**Registration Fee: \$110 (Lunch is provided)**

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## Registration Form

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

School/District \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Bill my district \_\_\_\_\_

Send completed registration form to:

Dr. Cheryl Blue, 19422 Davy Jones Circle, Plattsmouth, NE 68048 or e-mail [drcfblue@windstream.net](mailto:drcfblue@windstream.net)

**Registration Deadline: June 11, 2010**

# Message from the President ... Dottie Heusman

Is it Spring yet? Can we go out to recess? Will we get to school today? In the midst of one of the snowiest winters on record teachers and students are wondering if spring or summer will ever come. It's just the time of year when administrators and teachers need to know that yes, spring is around the corner and yes, we are approaching the home stretch of the 2009-2010 school year.

But it's also time to think about what we can do to assure that the students, teachers and administrators stay focused on the year and keep everyone challenged and enthusiastic about their learning.

The latest ASCD book, *Curriculum 21 Essential Education for a Changing World* by Heidi Hayes Jacobs may just be what the weather person ordered for the educator to read on those cloudy, cold days.

Heidi Hayes Jacob, who has taught at all grade levels in public schools explains what new technologies need to be taught for students to achieve in a globalized world, what to keep, what to cut and what to create in order to help students succeed, where portfolios and new kinds of assessments fit into accountability mandates, and so much more.

I believe this book is a must read for schools looking to make changes to the traditional school that has been around forever.

Speaking of making a change, the NASCD Executive Board has made a change and tried to bring our group into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. If you are reading this you'll realize that we are no longer sending out the News & Notes in paper copy. Our new website is up and running and we are pleased with the opportunities this will provide our members. We'll have workshop updates, educational information, and links to sites that will be helpful for you as an educator. Please bookmark this site <http://www.ascdnebraska.org/> and visit us often.

Thanks for being a member of ASCD and NASCD.

*"It's time to think about what we can do to assure that the students, teachers and administrators stay focused on the year ..."*

## NASCD

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**News & Notes** is the newsletter of the Nebraska Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (NASCD), NASCD is a state affiliate of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD). The views expressed herein are not necessarily NASCD or ASCD positions.

**News & Notes** is published four times annually with the intended purposes of informing the membership, promoting educational opportunities, and publishing professional articles written by NASCD conference presenters, Nebraska educators and policymakers.

## Executive Committee

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Waverly District #45 Public Schools

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Educational Service Unit #3

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