

PASA FLYER

Proud Leadership for Pennsylvania Schools



A Message from PASA's 2011-12 President

BY FRANK P. GALICKI, SUPERINTENDENT, DALLAS SCHOOL DISTRICT

I am extremely proud to be elected President of PASA chosen by my peers to represent superintendents across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. I firmly believe that I possess the personal attributes and professional skills to lead PASA.

At this critical time, schools need proactive leadership, innovative and creative approaches to learning, and a stimulating, engaging educational process, which will challenge our youth to attain their true potential. I am confident that the superintendents across this fine Commonwealth possess the skills to lead their school districts to unprecedented academic achievements.

As I have had the pleasure to be mentored by such great leaders as Amy Sichel, Fred Johnson, Tim McNamee, Bill Pettigrew, I assisted on the update of PASA By-Laws

and the PASA Resolutions for approval at our PASA-PSBA School Leadership Conference.

The purpose of PASA shall be "to promote the general educational welfare of the people of the Commonwealth, to evaluate and prepare desirable, educational legislation, to protect and advance the interests of its members, to foster professional growth, to advance educational standards in our schools, and to establish and maintain cooperative relationships among all organizations and agencies affecting education." (*PASA By-Laws Article II*)

In order for PASA to accomplish their purpose, we need YOU and YOUR SUPPORT AND YOUR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION in PASA. Together, we can develop collaborative plans to deal with our Governor's Education Reform Plan – vouchers, EITC expansion, charter school expansion, and educator evaluation. Today more than ever, public education is under siege, and we need to stand together to develop viable alternatives.

Many of you will be called upon to serve on committees to develop resolutions, legislation and facilitate an updated version of our

Strategic Plan. We will all work together as we serve the children of this state day-in and day-out.

Through your membership in PASA, you have indicated that you are committed to your profession. It is my hope that, working together, we can accomplish our goals. There is strength in numbers.

I thank you for the trust that you have put in me to serve you in this capacity. Have a great year.



At the Capitol
Page 3



Page 8



Page 8

NEXT ISSUE:

- ◆ PASA Award recipients
- ◆ Conference recap

Aspiring Leaders Wanted!

Do you have an administrator who is a prospective commissioned officer? Someone you are mentoring toward the superintendency?

The latest data nationwide and in Pennsylvania indicates that the number of teachers and administrators seriously considering moving into higher levels of educational leadership is decreasing. That, plus the number of anticipated superintendent retirements in the next five years, makes identifying and nurturing future school system leaders a priority now.

Please mark your calendars for the annual PASA "Aspiring to Leadership" workshop planned for **January 25-26, 2012** in the PASA Offices in Harrisburg. A one-day condensed session will be offered at ARIN I.U. in February (TBA).

The Aspiring program is uniquely designed to assist potential superintendents and assistants to think about their expectations, goals and responsibilities as prospective commissioned officers. Presenters will discuss the dimensions of the superintendency, the search process and preparing to enter a new job.

Growing strong education leaders has never been more important. **Encourage a potential leader in your district to attend this workshop.**

Registration details will be available soon on the PASA web site.



Inside...

Executive Director's Message	2
PASA Education Congress ..	4
Upcoming Programs	4
Thank You to our 2010-11 Sponsors	4
Transform Education?	5
News from the Women's Caucus	5
Association Meeting Called to Consider Bylaws Amendments, 2011-12 PASA Resolutions.....	6

From the Executive Director...Jim Buckheit

The Fall Legislative Agenda



With the General Assembly back from its summer recess, the usual political posturing and rhetoric that occurs in Harrisburg is building again over many of the same issues that were left on the table last spring, including education issues.

The first priority of the legislature – a must-do – is to adopt a plan to reapportion state legislative and Congressional districts. This action is necessary to align the districts with population changes reported by the 2010 U.S. Census. The legislature must adopt a plan by November 1 or authority to draw the new district boundaries will cede to the courts, something the legislature is loath to allow.

The next priority issue is adoption of a Marcellus Shale impact fee (aka tax), which is likely to pass now that Gov. Corbett has weighed in on the issue. He proposed allowing each county to levy an impact fee at a locally determined level within established state parameters.

Other priority issues include transportation funding and state liquor store privatization. Given the damage to roadways and bridges caused by recent flooding, transportation funding has moved from being on the “wait until later” to the “needs immediate attention” priority list. Liquor store privatization likely will be addressed only if it becomes part of a package deal involving the other priority issues. In addition to the legislative priorities of the Governor and House and Senate leadership, individual members will also continue to throw their own bills into the legislative hopper for consideration and action. Few of these come before the education committees for discussion and action.

Gov. Corbett will hold a media event at a charter school in York on October 11, where he will announce a package of education proposals* that will include tuition vouchers, charter school expansion, new teacher evaluation system and expansion of the Education Improvement Tax Credit program (EITC). The governor recently stated that his education proposals are his top priority for the fall after enactment of the Marcellus Shale impact fee.

This is a huge agenda for the General Assembly to accomplish before the end of the year. The Senate is scheduled to meet just 17 days and the House 21 days between now and the end of the year. Given the nature of how the General Assembly operates – where it usually can only focus on one or two major pieces of legislation at one time – it is hard to imagine how it could accomplish approval of all these items, even if they were non-controversial. And, given the fact that each one is surrounded by controversy, it is hard to imagine that more than one or two could become law this fall.

In addition to these issues, PASA is carefully monitoring efforts by legislators to limit the terms and conditions of employment of school administrators. Given the recent highly publicized buyout of Arlene Ackerman’s contract by the Philadelphia School Reform Commission, and subsequent initiative of Pennsylvania Auditor General Jack Wagner to conduct performance audits of each school district that has bought-out superintendents, several legislators have indicated that they plan to introduce legislation designed to prevent such payouts under new contracts negotiated in the future. PASA Legislative Chair Rich Fry, PASA Government Relations Representative Mary Webber and I have met with legislators to tell the administrator’s side of the story and share the potential negative consequences of making the position of chief school administrator less attractive in the future.

PASA will continue to actively track and report on state legislative issues through the PASA eUpdate, PASA Legislative Committee representatives, PASA website and in-person briefings at IU superintendent council meetings. We also will continue to actively represent the interests of school administrators to state policymakers throughout the fall legislative session.

*** Gov. Corbett unveiled his “education reform” plan on Oct. 11.
See p. 3 for a summary of the plan.**

PASA Members:

Please report your appointments, renewals, awards or special achievements, or that of others in your region to **Barbara Jewett** at PASA either by phone (717) 540-4448, by fax (717) 540-4405, or via email at pasa@pasa-net.org. Copy deadline is the 15th of each month.

The *PASA Flyer* is published monthly by the Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators.

President

Frank Galicki, Superintendent
Dallas School District

Treasurer

Dr. William Pettigrew, Jr., Superintendent
Mars Area School District

Past President

Dr. Amy Sichel, Superintendent
Abington School District

Executive Director

Jim Buckheit

Assistant to the Executive Director

Barbara W. Jewett

Design Editor

Suzanne K. Yorty

Correspondence regarding the *PASA Flyer* can be mailed to:

PASA

2608 Market Place
Harrisburg, PA 17110
(717) 540-4448
(717) 540-4405 fax
email to pasa@pasa-net.org

Visit our web site at
www.pasa-net.org

NEWS RECAP

The weekly Education Update posted on PASA-Net provides information on legislative, state and national news items. For more information on the following news briefs, see the PASA Web site at www.pasa-net.org. (Click on "Advocacy and Issues" to access a link to current and archived updates.)

2011-12 Budget News

State Revenues: Pennsylvania collected \$2.3 billion in General Fund revenue in September, which was \$151.8 million, or 6.1 percent, less than anticipated. Fiscal year-to-date General Fund collections total \$5.8 billion, which is \$215 million, or 3.5 percent, below estimate. Corporate and personal income tax collections were below estimates, although the Department of Revenue had extended to October 31 the tax deadline in 28 counties impacted by adverse weather in August.

State News

Poll on Public Schools: Findings of the latest Terry Madonna Opinion Research survey indicate that, by a wide margin, Pennsylvanians oppose recent state funding cuts to public education and support investments in programs that work. The poll also shows that Pennsylvanians strongly support investing in tutoring students, reducing class sizes and making schools safer, but oppose creating a taxpayer-funded voucher system for private and religious schools.

PSSA Scores: 2011 PSSA scores increased slightly from 2010 in all four tested subjects. Nearly 94% of the state's 499 school districts and 75% of the state's public schools made AYP. Proficiency targets in 2011 were increased from the 2010 targets.

Act 1 Index: The Department of Education in late September announced that the base index under Act 1 for fiscal year 2012-13 is 1.7%, an increase from the 2011-12 rate of 1.4%. School districts use the index, the average of the percentage increase in the statewide average weekly wage and the Employment Cost index, to calculate allowable local tax increases before a referendum is required.

Legislative News

Governor's Priorities: Gov. Corbett announced that his priorities for the fall session are finalizing an impact fee structure for Marcellus Shale gas extraction (first priority) and finalizing an "education reform" package, to include a voucher plan, economic furloughs and charter school reform.

General Assembly Schedule: The General Assembly is in recess (week of October 10) but returns to session on Oct. 17.

State Mandates: Bills providing relief from existing prevailing wage and bidding threshold requirements are moving through the House this month. At the same time, the House passed a bill requiring mandatory training and communication concerning sudden cardiac arrest, procedures and responsibilities for coaches, athletic directors and school officials.

NATIONAL NEWS

ESEA Waiver: The Obama administration announced last month that, because of congressional inaction on ESEA reauthorization, the U.S. Department of Education will allow states to apply for waivers from some of the more onerous requirements under "No Child Left Behind," including AYP determinations and 2014 proficiency goals, provided that the states are willing to commit to the Department's goals for school reform. PA Secretary of Education Ron Tomalis has

indicated he has not determined whether or not to apply for a waiver.

COMING UP

Gov. Corbett unveils his education reform plan this month. In addition, Marcellus Shale fees and privatizing the state liquor control system are issues that will continue to be under discussion this month in Harrisburg. On October 19 Education Secretary Tomalis will present to the Senate Education Committee the PDE's findings on PSSA test anomalies.



Latest News on Vouchers and "Education Reform"...

On Tuesday, October 11, Gov. Corbett unveiled his "education reform" package. Although details were not provided, the plan would include the following:

Vouchers:

- ♦ Create an "Opportunity Scholarship Program" for eligible students based on income and residence within the attendance zones of the lowest-performing 5 percent of schools in Pennsylvania
- ♦ For each child taking advantage of the program, transfer the per-student state funding to another public or non-public schools
- ♦ Require the student to take an assessment in that school (not necessarily the PSSA)

EITC:

- ♦ Expand the Educational Improvement Tax Credit program
- ♦ Include "program reforms" (unspecified)

Charter Schools:

- ♦ Remove from local school boards the authority to approve charters
- ♦ Establish a statewide authorization entity to approve, license and oversee charter schools; change laws and regulations to make it easier to convert buildings to charter schools
- ♦ Improve the payment mechanism for charter schools (unspecified)
- ♦ Increase accountability provisions on charter schools to require academic performance and require charter school officials to comply with the state's ethics and financial responsibility laws

Teacher Evaluation:

- ♦ Establish a new, reliable rating system to focus on student performance as well as traditional observation of classroom practices, to be used as the basis for decisions involving merit pay as well as tenure, retention or dismissal
- ♦ Develop separate rating systems for teachers, principals and education specialists that will include "different measurements and observation tools to help develop a final evaluation for each of them"
- ♦ Provide for staff rankings as "distinguished," "proficient," "needs improvement," or "failing;"
- ♦ Not included in the plan was authority for school districts to lay-off staff due to economic necessity.

COMING IN MARCH!

PASA EDUCATION CONGRESS

**March 21, 2012 in Harrisburg (TBA)
with Dr. Douglas Reeves**



This year's Congress will focus on "**Leadership for Instruction.**" Featured presenter will be **Dr. Douglas Reeves**, founder of The Leadership and Learning Center. The author of 30 books and many articles on leadership and organizational effectiveness, Dr. Reeves has twice been named to the Harvard University Distinguished Authors Series. Dr. Reeves was named the Brock International Laureate for his contributions to education. He also

received the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of Secondary School Principals and the Parents Choice Award for his writing for children and parents. He is the 2010 recipient of the National Staff Development Council's Contribution to the Field Award. Dr. Reeves presentation will center on his book *Activate: A Leader's Guide to People, Practices, Processes*. Registrants will receive this book in advance of the program.

PASA is seeking PIL/Act 48 approval for this program.

Registration will open soon!

SAVE THE DATE!

'Thank You' to our sponsors for their contributions to PASA in 2010-2011:

DIAMOND
PFM/PLGIT

GOLD
Horace Mann Companies
Scientific Learning Corp.

SILVER
AXA Equitable
Duquesne University School of Education
EI Associates
Highmark
Kades-Margolis, Corp.
King, Spry, Herman, Freund & Faul, LLC
McNees Wallace & Nurick, LLC
RBC Capital Markets
Student Transportation of America, Inc.

CONTRIBUTORS
Lincoln Investment Planning, Inc.
Tri-State Area School Study Council
University of Pittsburgh

Upcoming PASA Programs

Leadership for Teaching (PASA office)

Module 1 Oct. 5 (completed)

Module 2a Dec. 14

Module 2b Feb. 15

Module 3 April 11

Module 4 May 16

Focused on the leadership role of the administrator in the Standards Aligned System (SAS)

New Superintendents' Academy Part 3

January 18-19 PASA office

The use of evaluation in district and professional improvement
(*registration open soon*)

Aspiring to Leadership Workshop

Jan. 25-26 PASA office

February (one day*) ARIN I.U. (* TBA)

Intended to assist potential superintendents and assistants in thinking about their expectations, goals and responsibilities as prospective commissioned officers

AASA National Conference on Education

Feb. 15-19 Houston TX

Education Congress with Dr. Douglas Reeves

March 21 Harrisburg (TBA)

Women's Caucus Annual Spring Conference

May 1-3 Nittany Lion Inn, State College

See the PASA web site at www.pasa-net.org/workshops.asp
for more information on these programs.

Transform Education?

BY DR. PATRICK E. CRAWFORD, DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Perhaps it is because I am not in the educational arena each day. Perhaps it because I get to associate with so many excellent educators from across the state. But, whatever the reason, it is becoming clear to me that I missed a lot when I was a superintendent.

For example, each day I am increasingly convinced that a quiet yet, powerful transformation is occurring in education. This realization has become clearer because of what I have read, and the continual flogging of public education by policymakers. For example:

* “Transformation will come whether we want it or not—the forces already at work are simply too powerful. The only real question is whether we lead it or become overwhelmed by it.” – from *Shift Ed: A Call to Action For Transforming K-12 Education* (Houle, Cobb; Corwin Press, 2011)

* “The world is changing...no, excuse us, it’s not changing, it already has changed. We have left the Industrial Age and mass production and seen our way into, and maybe past, the Information Age and mass customization. Except for education, of course...which remains stuck in the assembly line approach to education which presupposes that all eight-year olds are ready to learn the same thing, the same way, in the same amount of time, so 20th century.” – from *Inevitable: Mass Customized Learning* (Schwahn, McGarvey; Amazon, 2011)

* “To decide what is the single best idea for reforming K-12 education, one needs to figure out what is the biggest problem that the system currently faces. To my mind, the biggest problem is a preoccupation with, and the application of, the factory model of management to education, where everything is arranged for the scalability and efficiency of the ‘the system’ to which the students, the teachers, the parents and the administrators have adjusted. ‘The system’ grinds forward, at every increasing cost and declining efficiency, dispiriting students, teachers and parents alike.” - Steve Denning, contributor (*Forbes*: “The Single Best Idea for Reforming K-12 Education;” September 1, 2011)

* “The competition that charter schools create for traditional public school systems is good and should help to improve educational quality, according to state Education Secretary Ron Tomalis

in a recent interview with the *Post-Gazette* editorial board. He said now is the time to offer alternatives such as charters, cyber charters and school vouchers because a new generation of parents will be seeking choices in their children’s education. He added that leaders of traditional public schools care more about the money they lose in tuition to charter schools than the students they lose.” - from “Education Chief: Variety Is Important” (*The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, 9/23/11)

Educational leaders should be proud of the gains in the first 10 years of the 21st Century. Student performance has improved significantly, there is a focus in developing leaders at all levels, and educators are collaborating in professional learning communities.

However, there is no time to even look back at those accomplishments. The demands placed upon school leaders in the next 10 years will require digging much deeper into meeting the individual needs of student and adult learning. The highest performing schools will create and sustain a culture of customized learning.

Regardless of how you feel about NCLB, it was a wake-up call for all public school leaders. My regret was having it imposed by policymakers instead of doing to ourselves. Let’s not have education transform take place without input and leadership from those of you that are in the educational arena and doing the “heavy lifting” every day. While some educators have been compliant about being beaten with the “accountability stick,” others are taking that stick away and assuming control of the situation.

It is you, the leaders of public education school who have an opportunity to re-invent the educational systems of tomorrow. It is unavoidable – what was considered good education previously is not nearly good enough for the future! Because of the speed and scale of change in the world, it is apparent to everyone: Schools must look and be different to meet the needs of all students.

The question for each of us to answer is this: Are we going to lead the way, or are we going to capitulate that responsibility to others?

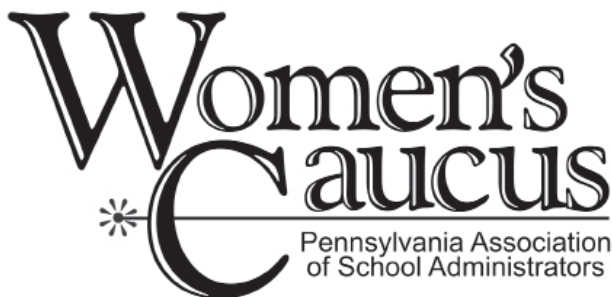
NEWS FROM THE WOMEN’S CAUCUS

SAVE THE DATE!

The 2012 Women’s Caucus Conference is scheduled for **May 1-3** at a **new location** – the Nittany Lion Inn in State College. This recently updated and historic hotel, built in 1931 and located right on the Penn State campus, will provide a beautiful setting for this important conference. Featured speakers will be **Margaret Grogan** and **Carol Shakeshaft**.

Please note that, for 2012, the conference will begin on a **Tuesday** and end on a **Thursday**.

Registration information will be available by early January.



Women’s Caucus Luncheon – October 19

There still is time to register for the Women’s Caucus Luncheon on October 19 in Hershey!

Featured speaker at this year’s luncheon is **Dr. Louise Donohue**, a professor of practice at the Lehigh University College of Education’s Leadership program and recently retired superintendent of the Parkland SD.

If you are a Caucus member, you may register for the luncheon without attending the entire conference. However, at this late date, all registrations must be done on site at the registration desk in the Chocolate Lobby of the Hershey Lodge & Convention Center.

Oct. 20 Association Meeting Called to Consider Bylaws Amendments, 2011-12 PASA Resolutions

The PASA Board of Governors has called for a General Membership meeting of the Association in conjunction with the PASA/PSBA Annual Leadership Conference.

The meeting will be held on October 20 during the PASA Recognition Luncheon in Hershey.

The purpose of the meeting will be to approve amendments to the PASA Bylaws and to approve the proposed 2011-12 PASA Resolutions.

PASA Bylaws Revision

The Bylaws have not been updated since 2008. The Executive Committee has conducted a comprehensive review of the Bylaws and noted several differences between past and current practice and Bylaw requirements and several dated provisions, and also have compared items such as membership dues with those of other state administrator associations. The PASA Board of Governors accepted the Committee's recommendations and offers the following Bylaws revisions to the membership for consideration and approval.

Proposed Changes:

- **Eliminate the requirement for each member of the Association to be provided a copy of the Annual Audit.** In recent memory, copies have only been distributed to members of the Board of Governors.
- **Eliminate the two-step election process.** The current Bylaws call for a two-step process which has not been used in several years.
- **Provide for electronic voting for officers.** The current Bylaws require that voting and candidate communications be done through traditional mail, which precludes the use of electronic communications and balloting which would save PASA the cost for labor, materials, copying and postage.
- **Increase dues for associate membership.*** The proposed increase of \$25 brings associate membership dues more in line with those of other state associations. (* effective in 2012-13)
- **Provide for Business Membership.** In line with a policy change approved by the Board in January 2011, the draft changes the Service Membership category to Business Membership and increases the membership fee from \$150 to \$500. (effective upon Bylaws approval)
- **Provide limited pro-rata membership dues.** Currently, there is no provision for membership dues collected on a pro-rata basis for Individual and Institutional Active members who are appointed as new to the position of chief school administrator or assistant superintendent after the start of PASA's fiscal year (October 1). This revision would allow those dues to be collected on a pro-rata basis. (effective upon Bylaws approval)
- **Revise membership on the Board of Governors.** The Executive Committee recommends expansion of the Board to include PASA representatives on the AASA Board of Governors as a way to improve collaboration between the two organizations. Individuals who serve multiple roles, such as service as both a Regional Representative and AASA Board member, would have just one vote.

2011-12 PASA Resolutions

The PASA Resolutions Committee in April reviewed the current PASA Resolutions and discussed possible revisions for 2011-12. Based on that discussion and committee recommendations, PASA staff revised the Resolutions and presented the draft to both the committee and Board of Governors for review.

That review complete, the committee and the Board now present to members for their review and consideration the proposed 2011-12 Resolutions.

What has changed:

- **Format:** The format of the Resolutions has been changed to make it easier to identify specific positions on issues. Most sections include "General Principles," statements of what PASA believes. Following that are specific positions PASA is taking on each issue.
- **Content:** The draft reflects consensus on issues and priorities identified regionally and issues that have become increasingly important both in Harrisburg and Washington. Emphasis is on accountability that is balanced with full support of public education.

Both documents are on the PASA web site for review at:

www.pasa-net.org/Proposals2011-12.asp

COMMUNICATIONS TIP OF THE MONTH

“David Doty, superintendent of the Canyons SD (Utah) has engendered plenty of goodwill for his aggressive stances and quickened pace of program adoption in the young district largely through his prolific use of personal technology. Doty, who is fluent in Spanish, keeps his staff and community well apprised of his moves through an oft-used Twitter feed that now has 3,600 followers, a regularly updated Facebook page and a blog, Dave’s Dialogue, that invites feedback. ‘I’ve found these tools tremendously helpful in the circumstances of our district,’ he says, pointing to a successful \$250 million bond election last June despite the recession. ‘There’s an insatiable appetite for information.’” – from “Profile: A Startup District’s ‘Uber-Tweeter’” by Jay Goldman, as published in the October issue of *The School Administrator*, AASA’s monthly publication. This month’s issue focuses on “missing the mark” - misapplying standardized tests for school accountability and the sorting of teachers. *Become an AASA member today and join your colleagues in the only national organization focused on the needs of chief school administrators. Call PASA today for information.*

Noteworthy Quotes...

On School Budgets...

"We've always solved the problem, but this time we don't have [reserve funds]. Our challenges are bigger than they've ever been." – Peter Camarda, business manager, from Pittsburgh Public Schools, on the district's budget crisis, as quoted by the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, 10/4/11

On Vouchers...

"Vouchers are not needed and will not improve public schools, which are the only schools open to every family. Most importantly, the very weak and often nonexistent impact on student achievement of the voucher programs in other states makes it unwise to adopt a new entitlement program that expands the size of Pennsylvania government in violation of several clauses in our State Constitution." – from a letter to the General Assembly sent by Pennsylvanians Opposed to Vouchers, including PASA, 9/27/11

"Polling over the past year has consistently indicated that Pennsylvanians do not support this plan, and do not think public schools are as abjectly wretched as anti-public education partisans would have us believe." – from an editorial in *The Public Opinion* (Chambersburg), 10/7/11

On PSSA Results...

"It's becoming pretty obvious that the most important thing that affects student achievement ... is the quality of the teacher in the classroom, more than the dollars." – Secretary of Education Ron Tomalis, on PSSA test results, from the Associated Press, 9/29/11

"To say that a school is not performing properly because a few kids who are by definition not learning at the same level as their peers don't make it up to an arbitrary standard – that's nuts. This is a good school." – Lawrence Feinberg, Haverford Township SD board member, on one of the district's elementary schools failing to meet AYP for special education students' reading scores, as quoted in *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, 9/30/11

On NCLB...

"If we all agree that the [NCLB] regulations that are to be waived are onerous and an impediment to real change in our schools, then they should be waived for all schools, not just the ones in states that apply for and receive the waivers.... We regret that many schools in the states that do not apply for waivers will still be identified as failing, when they are not. These schools will be forced to spend much-needed dollars on solutions that have not worked and continue to labor under a law that everyone admits is an impediment to progress." - Daniel Domenech, AASA Executive Director, on the proposed ESEA flexibility waiver proposed by the Obama Administration, from a press release (9/23/11)

On Teaching...

"I really don't think I'm that extraordinary compared to others teachers in this school. I'm accepting this as a prepayment for making myself a better teacher." – Steve Scoville, Pittsburgh SD physics teacher, after learning he was the recipient of the \$25,000 Milken Educator Award, as quoted by *The Post-Gazette*, 10/5/11

From AASA...

TESTIMONY

AASA President-elect and school superintendent, Benny L. Gooden testified on Sept. 21 before the U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce, chaired by Rep. John Kline (R-MN), on issues related to the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Governing board member Amy Sichel, PASA President, previously testified before the committee. Read more about it on the AASA web site.

INFORMATION

In the 2011 fall volume of the AASA Journal of Scholarship and Practice, editor Christopher Tienken asks (and answers) if the expanding charter movement is separate, unequal and legal. See the AASA web site for details.

CONFERENCES

AASA/ACSA Women in School Leadership Forum
Oct. 20-21 San Diego, CA

Webinar: 7 Steps for Becoming a 21st Century School or District
Oct. 26

Building School Culture Workshop
Oct. 27-28 Arlington, VA

"Turning Your District Around"
Nov. 3-4 AASA offices (Arlington, VA)

Dr. Joe Frontera and Dr. Dan Leidl of Meno Consulting will lead this two-day workshop that will focus on the principles and actions that drive organizational turnarounds and subsequent successes. Frontera and Leidl also were presenters at last year's New Superintendents' Academy (Part 2).

National Conference on Education
Feb. 16-19 Houston, Texas

Among the featured presenters: **Rick DuFour, Jamie Vollmer and Freeman Hrabowski**
PASA Reception: Friday, February 17, 5:30-7:30 p.m. in The Grove Restaurant (across from the Convention Center)

See the AASA web site for more information on these conferences and other programs at www.aasa.org.

NOT AN AASA MEMBER? Join the only education organization dedicated to representing the interests of school superintendents on the national level.



MEMBER

NEWS

REGION 3

Daniel Castagna has been appointed Superintendent of the West Mifflin Area SD. He has been serving as interim superintendent in the district since August, when former superintendent **Dr. Janet Sardon** left the district to take the superintendency in the Yough SD.

Dr. William Urbanek, Superintendent of the Keystone Oaks SD, has announced he will retire, effective in December, after serving in the district for 37 years, seven as superintendent.

REGION 4

Tracy Vitale has been appointed Superintendent of the Seneca Valley SD. She previously served as the district's assistant superintendent for human resources and pupil services. Vitale replaces **Dr. Donald Tylinski**, who has retired.

REGION 13

Michele Balliet currently is serving as Interim Superintendent of the Elizabethtown Area SD. She replaced **Dr. Amy Slamp**, who resigned to take a position with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

REGION 20

Dr. Victor Lesky, Superintendent of the Nazareth Area SD, has announced he plans to retire, effective July 4 after more than a decade in the position. Lesky is a member of the PASA Board of Governors and Professional Development Committee and serves as one of PASA's representatives to the PFM/PLGIT Board of Trustees.

Dr. Elizabeth Robison is now serving as Superintendent of the Pocono Mountain SD. She previously served as the district's deputy superintendent. Robison replaced **Dr. Dwight Pfennig**, who has retired.

REGION 22

Gregory Wright is now serving as Superintendent of the Bristol Borough SD. He formerly served as curriculum director in the William Penn SD. Wright replaced **Broadus Davis**, who has retired.

REGION 23

Dr. Timothy Kirby, Superintendent of the Upper Perkiomen SD, has announced his intention to retire in January after 39 years in education, 32 as a school administrator and 19 as a superintendent. He previously served as superintendent in the Penn-Delco and Council Rock school districts and has been superintendent in Upper Perkiomen since 2004.

Report member news to PASA at pasa@pasa-net.org by the 15th of each month. Announcements of professional vacancies across Pennsylvania and in neighboring states are posted on the PASA Web site at www.pasa-net.org/Vacancies.asp.



PASA CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2011-12

For more information, see the PASA web site at www.pasa-net.org.

October

- 18 Legislative Committee meeting (Hershey)
Board of Governors meeting (Hershey)
- 18-21 PASA/PSBA Leadership Conference (Hershey)
- 19 Women's Caucus Luncheon and board meeting (Hershey)
- 20 PASA Recognition Luncheon (Hershey)

November

- 16 Mentor Meeting (TBA)
- 24-25 PASA office closed

December

- 7 Education Congress follow-up session (PASA office)
- 14 Leadership for Teaching Module 2a (PASA office)
- 16 Women's Caucus board meeting (PASA office)
- 26-30 PASA office closed (limited hours Dec. 28)

January 2012

- 18-19 New Superintendents' Academy Part 3 (PASA office)
- 25-26 Aspiring to Leadership Workshop (PASA office)
- 26 Joint Boards dinner (TBA)
- 27 Board of Governors meeting (PASA office)

February

- 15 Leadership for Teaching Module 2b (PASA office)
- 16-19 AASA National Conference on Education (Houston)
- 20 PASA office closed
- 29 Women's Caucus board meeting (PASA office)

SAVE THE DATE!

PASA Education Congress

March 21, 2012

Featured Presenter: Douglas Reeves