

cape Council for American Private Education outlook

"Voice of the Nation's Private Schools"

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Teacher Education Needs Flexibility, Accountability

In the opening of a two-day teacher education conference in Washington, Secretary of Education Lauro F. Cavazos said the "guiding principles for teacher education" should be flexibility and accountability.

The Secretary claimed that after a decade of reform debate, the focus for teachers should be to give them the "maximum" flexibility in the classroom as a way to bring innovation and creativity back to schools. Cavazos claimed that only through empowering professional educators will the National Education Goals, outlined by the Bush Administration and the Nation's Governors at the Education Summit in 1989, be attained.

Cavazos' comments came at a "Conference to Re-examine Teacher Education", sponsored by the Department of Education's Office of Educational Research and Improvement, which opened December 4.

Cavazos claimed that restructuring of teacher education is essential to achieving the goals and must go hand in hand

with the other Bush Administration education reform objectives of "educational choice" and "school-based management". "We must rearrange the priorities", said Cavazos because teacher education "must be restructured if we are going to restructure school systems."

Three fundamentals the Secretary pinpointed to improve teacher education were: graduates must "know how to create a learning environment"; teachers must "have a thorough understanding of their subject matter"; and teacher education "must react to cultural diversity found in the classroom".

The "school is the center of change," rather than federal elective offices or superintendant's offices.

Cavazos added that there should be greater emphasis to recruit more minority teachers.

The Secretary also emphasized that teachers "must be willing to work outside the classroom" to make school based management meaningful and productive. This point was echoed by conference panelist John Goodlad, professor of education and director of the Center for Educational Renewal at the University of Washington in Seattle. Having teachers actively "engaged in school management" is one of his key points for teacher education reform.

Goodlad noted one overriding agree-

ment for the reform debate of the '80's is that the "school is the center of change", rather than federal elective offices or superintendents offices. Goodlad, author of a well-known 1984 publication A Place Called School and the more recently released book Teachers for Our Nation's Schools, criticized the lack of partnership between the K through 12 system and higher education. Just because teaching graduates are meeting the proficiency requirements out of a university does not guarantee that the universities are "meeting their obligations" to the future teachers. Goodlad argued that meeting a "list of proficiencies" does teachers little good if they know or care nothing "about the mission of the school in which they are teaching", stating further that it "doesn't matter how far or fast" student teachers are moving in their curriculum if they are "on the wrong track" on how to teach.

Dr. Goodlad also pointed out that morality cannot be ignored as an issue taught in schools, saying that it is fundamental to the teaching profession. He argued that it is "immoral to require children to attend school" if teachers are not fulfilling their end of the learning process.

The Exxon Education Foundation recently awarded a \$1.25 million,

Cavazos Resigns

At press time, Lauro F. Cavazos resigned as Secretary of the Department of Education. Outlook will review the implications of this announcement in the January edition.



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five-year grant to the Center to assist Goodlad in his work to assist schools and higher education institutions in reforming teacher education programs as outlined in his book.

Joyce McCray, CAPE Executive Director, said, "Dr. Goodlad's prescription for changing the training and responsibility of the public school teacher education system draws from the experiences of many of our schools. The discussion of a defined mission of the school and teachers working as professional teams in managing their school is a responsive and effective system that has served private schools since their beginning."

Oregon Choice Vote Dust Settles, For Now

Five weeks after Oregon's "choice" initiative failed a November vote of the people by a 2 to 1 margin, Mark Siegel of the Oregon Federation of Independent Schools says the effort created "positive results" for the future of private education.

Measure 11, the ballot initiative pushed by "Oregonians for Educational Choice," a small, independent organization, would have allowed a \$2,500 tuition state income tax credit for private school parents. The measure had the "theoretical support" of the Federation which urged and received action and debate from its member organizations.

In addition to surprising broad-based support from unlikely advocates, Siegel said that the opposition groups were intent on "poisoning" the public's view of the referendum's effects. One national organization made the charge that the tax credit would allow state "money to go to cult schools." Another adversary claimed the benefit would be given to people who do not pay Oregon taxes, a false charge since only Oregonians can claim the credit on state tax forms.

Despite such election tactics, Siegel asserted that the initiative "created a discussion" among private educators and unified the state organization, which has its largest and most active membership ever.

Siegel also suggested that the Measure 11 debate sparked action aimed at private schools by the Oregon State School Board. New regulations were proposed by

the Board dealing with private and home school registration with the state. Thanks to a "unified" Federation under Siegel's leadership, the threat of these new intrusions were single-handedly stopped.

Expressing optimism that a refined choice proposal will make it to the state ballot again, Siegel explained that "new measures rarely pass in the first year" in Oregon. He noted that it took years for a mandatory seatbelt measure, which started in the 70's, to pass the vote of the people.

In other efforts, Siegel, Oregon's state CAPE affiliate representative, is in the final stages of planning a western state CAPE meeting to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada, on February 1-2, 1991. While early efforts to have a meeting on broad topics on state-level interest have been successful, Siegel is still hoping to locate representation from Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, South Dakota, and Oklahoma.

Anyone interested in more information about the western state CAPE meeting, should contact Mark Siegel at: The Delphian School, 20950 SW Rock Creek Road, Sheridan, Oregon 97378 or call (503) 843-4093 or 843-3521.

Choice Office Established

In a Washington press conference, Department of Education Secretary Lauro Cavazos announced the establishment of a Department unit to promote parental choice. The announcement was made with the release of a 19-page report on five hearings held last year on choice.

While the Center for Choice in Education and accompanying telephone hotline will be used as a clearinghouse of state and local efforts on parental choice programs nationally, Cavazos maintained those efforts would likely have to continue without direct federal funding. He did claim, however, that the Administration was considering education block grants to be used for choice programs. The toll free hotline (1-800-442-PICK) can be utilized to answer questions about school choice and to offer advice and information to parents and educators on local choice proposals.

The report, entitled "Choosing Better Schools", details eight forms of parental

choice: magnet schools, open enrollment within a district, open enrollment between districts, college courses for high school students, alternative programs for dropouts, tuition tax credits, education vouchers, and home schooling.

Cavazos reiterated his belief that "radical restructuring of our education system through parental choice and school-based management is the best way to reach our national education goals by the turn of the century."

The CAPE Board of Directors adopted a unanimous statement on choice in education at its October meeting in Washington. The statement calls for "national and state legislation" to allow "all parents the opportunity to exercise fully their right to choose their child's school". A copy of the full statement is available by contacting the CAPE office.

Legislative Update:

Child Care Program Passed

The Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 was passed as a part of the Congressional Budget Reconciliation legislation prior to adjournment in October.

The law includes a program of direct aid to lower income parents through child care certificates which can be used to purchase services from child care providers - including religious providers. Eligible families are defined as having children below age 13 and income below 75% of the state's median income. The program authorizes \$2.5 billion in new federal spending.

In last minute dealings, negotiators dropped a controversial House title which would have created a new early childhood education program in the public schools. Replacing it was a general authorization for grants to a wide range of providers including private, nonprofit entities, as well as extended day programs for "latch-key" children. These grants, directed to providers instead of parents, do contain "religious use" restrictions if such organizations participate. This is the standard prohibition against federal funds being used to pro-



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mote religious tenets.

Additionally, the bill includes a \$12.4 billion benefit over five years to low income working families with children through an enhanced "earned income tax credit".

NDN Gets \$14.2 Million

For the first time in its 16 year history, the National Diffusion Network received its requested appropriations level in the education funding legislation. The \$14.2 million amount was a compromise between the \$15 million Senate figure and the \$14 million House sum.

The increase in appropriation marks the first time that the National Dissemination Study Group, the NDN's professional association, has succeeded in gaining Congressional support for the full funding of a budget request.

CAPE promotes NDN programs to private schools on behalf of the Department of Education through its Private School Facilitator Project. Contact Dr. Charles Nunley at (202)659-0177 for more information.

"Points of Light"

With his signature on the National Service Act (P.L. 101-553), President Bush enacted a bill authorizing \$5 million this year for the "Points of Light Foundation". The foundation, incorporated this spring as a private, nonprofit group, is meant to promote the 1988 Bush campaign theme on volunteerism and service.

The foundation also recently received a \$1.5 million grant from the Kraft General Foods Foundation to set up a new program called StarServe: Students Taking Action and Responsibility in Service. Guides will be sent to more than 94,000 schools showing students how to start community service projects through this program.

The \$5 million in federal funds will help the foundation in its mission to foster volunteerism in the United States.

New Education Panel Chairman

With the retirement of Representative Augustus F. Hawkins (D-California), a new chairman will take over the House Education and Labor Committee in the 102nd Congress next month. Rep. William D. Ford (D-Michigan) will head the full committee as well as the panel's Postsecond-

dary Education Subcommittee.

Ford, 63, is a 14 term Member of Congress from Taylor, Michigan. He gives up the Post Office and Civil Service Committee Chairmanship for the education leadership post.

Senator Edward M. Kennedy (D-Massachusetts) will continue as Chairman of the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee which oversees education policy. The Senate Subcommittee on Education, Arts and Humanities will remain under the leadership of Senator Claiborne Pell (D-Rhode Island) who won re-election.

CAPE Washington Conference

CAPE will host a first-of-its-kind Legislative Conference in conjunction with our 20th Anniversary on March 19 and 20, 1991. The two day meeting will include a White House briefing, visits with Members of Congress, and a gala reception at the historic Russell Senate Caucus Room honoring CAPE's 20 years.

The Embassy Row Hotel in Washington has been selected for the event where rooms have been saved for CAPE members. A \$120 registration fee will be required of participants and all interested CAPE organization members are invited to attend. For registration details and more information, contact the CAPE office at (202) 659-0016.

Capenotes:



In its annual autumn meeting, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops adopted a statement calling for legislative efforts to provide financial assistance to parents who want to send their children to private, church-operated schools.

The statement, approved on November 14, states three primary goals for Catholic schools for the '90's: to continue to provide "the highest quality education", to guarantee that Catholic parents have access to Catholic schools, and to ensure that Catholic teachers and administrators have just wages, as reflected in the 1986 pastoral letter "Economic Justice for All".

The American Express Geography Competition announces its 1990-1991 contest developed for secondary school teachers in conjunction with the Association of American Geographers. The competition is open to all students in grades 7 through 12. Students or teams of students must have a teacher or principal sponsor their project. Entries must be in the form of an 8-page written project on a geographical topic subject to guidelines which can be obtained from the competition.

First prize in each category is \$15,000, second prize, \$10,000 and third prize, \$5,000. The teacher sponsor of each prize winning entrant will receive an additional \$1,500. Every student who participates will receive a personalized certificate acknowledging the energy and creativity that goes into completing a competition project.

Entry deadline is February 28, 1991. For more information on the competition, call 1-800-395-GLOBE from 10 a.m. to 7 pm. EST weekdays.

The Scrap Map: An Environmental Publication for Grades K-6 has just been published by the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc. The colorful 6" by 9" brochure explains the concept of recycling and illustrates recycling in practice by following three common products -- automobiles, aluminum cans, and newspapers -- through the recycling process.

The scrap map can be used by children as a personal learning tool or by teachers in the classroom. It features several games relating to the information provided and other activities for children to pursue, including the creation of a "recycling circle" for children to keep on their desks.

A free single copy of the scrap map is available by writing to the Public Relations Dept., Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc., 7th Floor, 1627 K Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20006-1704.

The President's Volunteer Action Awards will accept nominations postmarked by midnight January 11, 1991. The Awards are to recognize the volunteer efforts of any individuals or groups whose activities benefit the community, state or nation.

In addition to a standard official nomination form, entrants must submit a 500-word statement describing the activities of

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the nominee.

For more information about the award program, write "The President's Volunteer Action Awards", P. O. Box 37488, Washington, D. C. 20013.

▮ **Presidential Classroom's Senior High School Program** is designed to give high school student leaders interested in government the opportunity to experience government firsthand. Participants gather from around the country to meet the nation's leaders in Washington, D.C. during one of nine week-long programs.

During their week in Washington, qualified high school juniors and seniors learn what makes this country run while attending seminars with decision-makers who shape headlines and history: Members of Congress, Supreme Court justices, White House officials, Cabinet members, ambassadors and political correspondents.

Presidential Classroom, a non-profit civic education organization, has brought more than 55,000 students to Washington over the past 22 years.

For more information on qualifications and costs, contact Presidential Classroom for Young Americans, 441 North Lee Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314-2346 or call toll free 1-800-441-6533.

▮ **IBM and the Smithsonian Institution**

announced an agreement to jointly develop a multimedia computer software package aimed at pre-kindergarten through second-grade children. It is envisioned that the package will be used in child care centers, school, and homes.

The multimedia application will make it possible for children and parents living outside Washington, D.C. to learn from the abundant resources in the Smithsonian museums. Currently, the Smithsonian Early Enrichment Center, a non-profit organization licensed by the District of Columbia as a child care center based in the National Museum of American History, runs a successful museum-based curriculum.

For more information, contact the Office of Public Affairs, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560 or call (202) 357-2627.

▮ **The Bill of Rights Education Collaborative** sponsors various grant competitions to strengthen pre-collegiate education about constitutional rights. The Collaborative is sponsored by the American Historical Association and the American Political Science Association and supported by the Pew Charitable Trusts.

One such competition is "Mini Grants for Teachers" for middle and high school social studies teachers whose courses address issues of constitutional rights.

Awards range from \$500 to \$1,500 to fund projects for students, other teachers, and/or a community audience through imaginative approaches to teaching and learning.

For more information and application instructions, contact: Mini Grants/BREC, 1522 New Hampshire Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036 or call (202) 483-2512. Application deadline is January 15, 1991 for the first of two competitions with an August 15 deadline for the second.

▮ PBS will air a major prime time program called **All Our Children with Bill Moyers** on January 16. The telecast kicks off a year-long effort by the Public Television Outreach Alliance to respond to experts' predictions that "unless the problems of the nation's youth are addressed and corrected, America will lose this generation" to the influence of neglect, abuse, school drop-out and drugs.

Future programs will focus on "Investing in Our Youth" and "Making the American Dream Work for Our Children".

The Bill Moyers documentary is 90 minutes, followed by an hour-long, live discussion with government, business, and education leaders as well as families on "how America can better respond to the needs of its children."

Check local PBS listings for broadcast time.

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