

# cape Council for American Private Education outlook

"Voice of the Nation's Private Schools"

November 1992 Number 185

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## Teaching Standards Board Work Progresses

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards announced the contractors for a national field test in its quest to upgrade the profession of teaching through a voluntary certification system. The \$7.1 million Field Test Network will allow teachers to test assessments designed to measure what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do to receive National Board certification.

The NBPTS is a nonprofit, independent organization devoted to improving student learning in American schools. Established in 1987, its mission is to establish high, rigorous and voluntary standards for teachers and advance related education reforms. It is governed by a 63-member board of directors, the majority of whom are active classroom teachers.

"The Field Test Network takes us from the halls and laboratories of research into the halls and classrooms of our nation's schools," said James B. Hunt, Jr., NBPTS chair and newly elected Governor of North Carolina. "That is where the real work of educating students takes place, and that is where the test of National Board certification must start."

CAPE has diligently monitored the work of the independent board and been represented with the help of Susan Lloyd, a private school teacher from Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts. Lloyd alerted *Outlook* readers in the May 1992 edition that "teachers ... must have a

decisive voice in improving schools" because "for too long, competence in teaching has been defined by state legislatures, administrators who have fled the classroom, and distant licensing agencies". As the lone private school teacher on the Board, Lloyd has contended that the work of the NBPTS poses more of a promise for professional development than a threat for national minimum standards.

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Joyce G. McCray, CAPE executive director, also believes the work of board must have private school development and influence. "The fact is, with the national desire for accountability and excellence in the field of teaching, the work of the board will be a reality and a force in school reform. Private schools must be a part of that trend."

Representatives of the NBPTS met with the CAPE board of directors at their fall meeting last month. Mary-Dean Barringer, director of the network, addressed the CAPE board to explain what has been done to include private schools in the field test stage

of assessment development. She explained the purpose of the network in developing the assessment prototypes that a candidate will use to seek the professional distinction of national board certification. She further appealed to CAPE to encourage the involvement of private school teachers in the 27 network sites.

The week before that meeting, a letter was sent from Barringer and Lloyd to private school heads in each of the 27 test site areas with lists provided by Market Data Retrieval, the publisher of the CAPE private school directory. The letter specifically sought private school teacher volunteers as recruits for the field test. "NBPTS is distributing a volunteer participant survey to all sites which will determine our national pool from which we will design our sampling," the letter stated. The letter asked that surveys be returned by November 20.

After the presentation and briefing at the CAPE board meeting, McCray said, "Although the timing is already upon us, private school teachers should be aware of these activities and willing to take the time to involve themselves in the effort. The NBPTS has sought to involve us and we are excited to participate."

During the two-year contract period, the 27 network contractors -- 15 individual school districts and 12 consortia mem-



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bers -- will perform a variety of tasks. Reviewing and evaluating draft standards documents, creating professional development programs for teacher candidates, and recruiting for the field-testing activities will be the focus during the 1992-1993 school years. The principal field tests of assessment packages and of the NBPTS operating system will take place in the 1993-94 school year. Each site will be managed by a local Field Test Network coordinator.

Contracts for the project total approximately \$2.6 million, and the National Board will incur another \$2.1 million in related costs. An additional \$1 million will be paid out by the National Board in \$500 honorariums to teachers involved in the assessment packages field tests. Support for the project is provided by federal matching funds and NBPTS donors, including the DeWitt Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund and the Pew Charitable Trusts.

Should you desire more information about the field test or the survey for involvement, private school teachers should call Barbara Shapiro in the NBPTS Washington office at (202) 463-3980 or Mary-Dean Barringer, in the Detroit office at (313) 259-0830 ext. 242).

## **New Private School Federal Handbook Published**

The Office of Private Education has announced a new publication entitled the *Handbook on Serving Private School Students with Federal Education Programs*. This manual updates and expands on a previous handbook last published in 1978.

The news was announced by Michelle Easton, head of the U.S. Department of Education's Private school office, in a memorandum to national private school leaders on October 8. Easton noted that the unbound handbook would be "mailed to each private school in the country in approximately 6 weeks. It will also be sent to Chief State School Officers, State Private School Liaisons, selected public school superintendents and principals, and State CAPE directors."

The manual fulfills a dual purpose "to inform representatives of children enrolled

in private elementary and secondary schools of the resources available through federal education programs" and "to compile material useful to public school officials who administer federal education programs for private elementary and secondary school students."

The appendices offer additional information of great benefit to private schools, including contact persons for both private school administrators and public school personnel coordinating federal program participation for private school students and teachers.

For further information about the handbook, please write or call the Office of Private Education, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-0122, (202) 401-1365.

## **Blue Ribbon Schools Update**

Under contract from the U.S. Department of Education, CAPE administers the Blue Ribbon Schools Recognition Program for private school participation. The 1992-93 program shows tremendous interest and involvement from private schools across the country.

The national program is designed to bring recognition to exemplary schools which demonstrate excellence in their school community and an improved learning environment. The national competition alternates between recognition of elementary schools and secondary schools. This year's nomination process involves secondary schools.

A letter describing the program was mailed to all private schools offering nomination applications to those interested. Nomination forms were received at the CAPE office from 701 applicants by the November 2 deadline representing private schools in 54 states and territories.

A CAPE Steering Committee consisting of private school educators has been invited to Washington from November 30 through December 2 to review the applications and to determine which ones will be nominated to the U.S. Department of Education. CAPE is allowed to nominate 103 private schools.

## **CASE Handbook Promotes Fund Raising**

The Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) has just released a new book on fund raising and friend raising at independent schools. It covers all aspects of development from the roles of heads and trustees to cultivating grandparents and the intricacies of planned giving.

The book is well suited for a school's development officer, principals, boards members and other volunteers -- particularly alumni and parents -- whose involvement is so essential for development programs to succeed. The comprehensive volume has been edited by one of the top development professional in the field, Jeremy Jones, who recruited outstanding colleagues from New Hampshire to California to share their knowledge and know-how throughout the 27 chapters.

Among the topics covered are writing strategic plans, energizing annual giving, keeping up with alumni, managing the development office, mastering direct-mail appeals, and coping with a PR crisis. Further topics include budgeting for publications, curing volunteer "askophobia", using student phonathons, and showing donors that you care.

*A Development Handbook: Promoting Philanthropy at Independent Schools*, edited by Jones, is available for \$40 to members of CASE and \$50 for nonmembers (prepaid, includes shipping and handling). The 222-page book can be ordered by calling the CASE publications office at (800) 554-8536 or writing P.O. Box 90386, Washington, DC 20090-0386, or by fax, (301) 206-9789 if paying by VISA, Mastercard, or purchase order. Please specify #25002.

## **Legislative Update:**

### **Out with the Old ...**

The 102nd Congress ended last month after a flurry of activity and passage of last-minute legislation. Hurrying



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back to their newly drawn districts, House incumbents adjourned on October 9 in order to campaign in their newly drawn districts based on the 1990 census. Thirty-five Senate seats were up for election as well.

### ... In with the New

The November 3 elections not only brought about a change in the White House, but also a total of 121 freshman to the Congress. There were 110 newly elected Members of the House of Representatives and 11 newly elected U.S. Senators. This was the most new Members elected since 1948. Leadership elections will be held later this month with committee assignments soon to follow.

The new, 103rd Congress will be sworn in to office on January 5, 1993. President-Elect Bill Clinton and Vice President-Elect Al Gore will be inaugurated on January 20.

### Appropriations Bill Passed

Prior to its adjournment, the Congress passed a spending bill, **H.R. 5677**, for Education Department funding in fiscal year 1993. The popular Chapter 1 program for low income and disadvantaged students received a slight \$4 million increase over the 1992 funding level. The final funding figure for the "Capital Expenses for Private School Children" line item under Chapter 1 was \$39.7 million, only \$320,000 below the 1992 figure.

The "Blue-ribbon schools" program, which was interrupted last year due to zero funding in the omnibus spending bill, was funded at \$879,000. This will prevent the disruption the program experienced last year when funding was mysteriously dropped in the joint conference committee.

Also funded slightly below last year's level was the National Diffusion Network, for which CAPE is a contractor. Its final appropriation amount was \$14.5 million. Finally, the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards was granted just under \$4.8 million for its research and development activities.

### Time Commission Extended

The Congress passed **H.R. 5560**, extending the authorization for the "National Commission on Time and Learning". The blue-ribbon panel was created to make recommendations concerning the length of the

school day and academic year as related to learning. The bill was signed by President Bush on August 26.

### Tax Relief Vetoed

President Bush vetoed **H.R. 11**, an omnibus \$27 billion tax and urban aid bill which included a provision to give full deductibility to taxpayers who made charitable gifts of appreciated property.

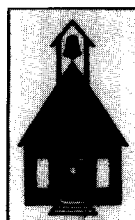
CAPE had joined with several other non-profit educational and charitable organizations in pushing for the tax relief provision, which separately was supported by a majority of both houses of Congress as well as the Administration. CAPE will continue its work with the new Congress to see that charitable giving is encouraged in the tax code.

## Capenotes

► The U.S. Department of Education's **National Diffusion Network** is accepting applications for projects to disseminate nationwide exemplary programs. The grants will come for \$1 million set aside for projects in English, mathematics, science, history, and geography, as well as \$1 million for adult literacy and teaching improvement. A total of 27 awards are anticipated ranging from \$60,000 to \$100,000.

The deadline for dissemination projects is April 9. For more information, contact the Department of Education, Carolyn Lee, 555 New Jersey Ave., NW, Room 510, Washington, DC 20208-5645 or call (202) 219-2156. For information on the private school facilitator project, which disseminates NDN programs to private schools, contact Dr. Charles Nunley at the CAPE office, (202) 659-0177.

► The **National Education Goals Panel** has published their second annual report, documenting the nation's progress toward achieving the six national education goals: readiness for school, competence in core subjects, primacy in math and science, safe, disciplined schools, reduced dropout rates, and adult literacy and lifelong learning. While the report highlighted and compiled state-by-state data, it also included federal data on support toward the goals.



The report disclosed that 27 federal departments and agencies were involved with programs and activities relating to the goals, spending about \$27 billion in the last fiscal year. This represented an approximate \$4.6 billion increase from the 1991 fiscal year.

The breakdown of federal funding by student age group saw 31 percent go to programs for 18 years and older - particularly in the student loan and job training programs. Twenty-seven percent went to programs such as school lunch and Chapter 1 - programs addressing the needs of students in the elementary and secondary schools. And 24 percent of the \$75 billion was spent on Head Start and related programs for young children aged five and below.

A copy of the entitled *The National Education Goals Report: Building a Nation of Learners* and a 28-page executive summary is available from the panel by writing 1850 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036, or calling (202) 632-0952.

► A **National Teachers Hall of Fame** has been established and begun operations in Emporia, Kansas with exhibit space in the 35,000 square foot building currently being completed. The hall of fame moved from vision to reality this year with the support and endorsement of a number of national education organizations as well as broad-based financial assistance.

Nominations and applications are now being invited for the Second Annual Induction program to be held June 19, 1993. Candidate eligible for induction into the hall of fame must have (or have had) classroom teaching as their responsibility in grades prekindergarten through high school. Candidates may be active or retired, and must be (or have been) certificated public or non-public school teachers. The selection process is highly selective. Final decisions are made by a blue-ribbon committee of educators and officials selected by the board of directors of the hall.

All nominations must be submitted on an official application form. The closing date for receiving completed forms and all other supporting materials is January 11, 1993. Forms may be obtained by calling (316) 341-5660 or writing to Edward L. McGlone, executive director, The National

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Teachers Hall of Fame, Box 17, 1200 Commercial, Emporia State University, Emporia, Kansas 66801.

• The Phillips Petroleum Company has announced the **Phillips Environmental Partnership Awards** which will be given to local programs that encourage environmental literacy and stewardship. Private and public elementary and secondary schools are among those eligible for grants from \$500 to \$5,000.

The Center for Environmental Education at Oklahoma State University will judge applications for the awards. Winners will be selected on their demonstration of a well-thought approach to meeting a local environmental need. Special consideration will be given to innovative programs and ideas that can be completed within one year as well as the depth and breadth of the local community's involvement.

Entries in the competition must be faxed or postmarked by January 15, 1993 and are available by writing to the Phillips Petroleum Company, PEP Program, 16 D1 PB, Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74004.

• Sixty elementary and middle school principals from across the United States were named **1992 National Distinguished Prin-**

**cipals** by the U.S. Department of Education and the National Association of Elementary School Principals last month in Washington.

Among those honored were five private school principals: Janet P. Murray, St. Ignatius School, Mobile, Alabama; David A. Janisko, Trinity Lutheran School, Delray Beach, Florida; Sister Ann Jeremy Brummel, St. Bernadette's School, Evergreen Park, Illinois; Marlene D. Lund, Queens Lutheran School, Long Island City, New York; and Sister Mary Elizabeth Sakach, St. John's School, McLean Virginia.

U.S. Secretary of Education Lamar Alexander said that "Principals can make all the difference in creating the best schools in the world for our nation's children. That's why we are honoring these leaders who are making a difference in their schools and in their communities."

• Copies of **Private Schools of the United States**, the 1992 edition, are still available from CAPE. The directory is published by Market Data Retrieval and lists all CAPE-affiliated private elementary and secondary schools in the US. The book listings by state provide the school name, address, phone, principal, grades, type, tuition, staffing,

programs and facilities, founding and CAPE affiliations.

To order a copy of the 1,239-page volume, send a check for \$37 (\$29.95 plus \$7.05 postage and handling) to CAPE, and your copy will be sent UPS.

• CAPE administers the **Drug-Free School Recognition Program** for the U.S. Department of Education. This program, in its sixth year, is intended to give visibility to private and public schools which are addressing the problem of drug and alcohol abuse in schools in a particularly creative and effective way. Such schools have a clear no-use drug policy, established enforcement procedures and an on-going plan to remain or become drug-free. The program seeks to recognize private and public schools from all sectors on the country.

Private schools were invited to participate in the program in an October mailing from Joyce McCray. Requests from applications were due October 30 and applications must be postmarked by November 30.

CAPE assists the Department with the logistical aspects of private school participation in this year's program, all major decisions about the selection of schools will be made by a national advisory committee appointed by the Department of Education.

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