

Virginia ASCD Welcomes Executive Director Linda Hyslop

By Ann Etchison

The Virginia ASCD Board of Directors welcomes Linda Hyslop as the next Executive Director of VASCD. Linda's professional experience includes teaching, building leadership, and, most recently, more than ten years as Assistant Superintendent for Instruction in Hopewell City Schools. She has been active on various community and nonprofit boards, including VASCD's Board of Directors. Linda's commitment to high quality teaching, learning, and leadership has touched colleagues throughout the Commonwealth, and her background and knowledge of VASCD's mission and strategic plan will serve VASCD well.

It has been my pleasure to work closely with Linda in her role as VASCD Conference Chair. Her enthusiasm for crafting a world class conference has been infectious, and her close association with attendees, speakers, and the hotel staff has been instrumental in the success of VASCD's Annual Conference. Linda believes in the power of building relationships as a foundation for meaningful learning, and I know she will welcome input and will give careful consideration to the feedback from VASCD members as she collaborates with the VASCD Board and the larger ASCD community.

At the 2011 Summer Retreat, the VASCD Board affirmed their commitment to creating powerful networks to advance learning. With a genuine knack for collegiality and teamwork, I know Virginia ASCD's leadership is in very capable hands. Best of luck to Linda and the Virginia ASCD Board!

Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities

by Linda Hyslop, Virginia ASCD Executive Director

On September 20, join Bruce Oliver and Christopher Gareis in Abingdon for [Moving Forward with Instructional Tools and Strategies that Work](#) a day-long event for teachers and administrators interested in maximizing student engagement through purposeful instructional tools and strategies. Bruce Oliver is Senior Consultant with Just Ask Publications. He is the author of *Just for the ASKing!*, the highly acclaimed monthly e-newsletter published on the Just ASK website. Christopher Gareis is Associate Dean for Teacher Education and Professional Services at the College of William and Mary.

The 2012 Annual Conference theme is [Taking on Challenges in Teaching, Learning, and Leading](#), offers forty-plus breakout sessions, a full-day pre-conference, and four additional keynotes. Featured speakers include:

- Heidi Hayes Jacobs, full-day pre-conference – founder and president of Curriculum21. She is editor and author of [Curriculum 21: Essential Education for a Changing World](#), [The Curriculum Map Planner](#), and [Getting Results with Curriculum Mapping](#).
- Seth Kahan - author of [Getting Change Right](#). Seth has a regular column in *The Washington Post*.
- Anthony Muhammad – president of New Frontier 21 and author of [Transforming School Culture: How to Overcome Staff Division](#).

- Diana Laufenburg – teacher at the Science Leadership Academy in Philadelphia, one of Philadelphia’s newer high schools, in partnership with the Franklin Institute.
- Andy Hargreaves - Thomas More Brennan Chair in the Lynch School of Education at Boston College. He is the author of several books, including [Sustainable Leadership](#) (with Dean Fink – 2006), [Change Wars](#) (with Michael Fullan-2008), and [The Fourth Way](#) (with Dennis Shirley-2009). His most recent book is [Professional Capital: transforming teaching in every school](#).

The [Virginia ASCD website](#) includes general information for both conferences, as well as links to exhibitor information, online registration, and the call for proposals for the Annual Conference.

Mark your calendars now to join 200 colleagues in southwest Virginia and 700 fellow educators in Williamsburg. In the meantime, VASCD continues to promote partnerships with schools, school divisions, and regions to develop regional professional development opportunities throughout the state. If your school, school division, or region has specific needs, please [contact Linda Hyslop](#) about co-sponsoring a learning event in your area.

Consider the changes our learning environments face as we move forward in 2012 and beyond: new tools of communication, virtual learning opportunities, unlimited access to information, pilot programs in teacher evaluation and the use of value-added data, standards initiatives, and legislative proposals for change at both the state and federal levels. As an organization, VASCD values the opportunity to bring educators together to focus on both big picture ideas and best practice details. Join us, bring a colleague, and let's add to our professional knowledge together.

ASCD Whole Child Network Initiative

Last month at the Annual Conference, ASCD announced the formation of a Whole Child Network (WCN) of schools. The development of the Whole Child Network (WCN) of schools represents an expansion of their implementation focus within the Whole Child Initiative. Through this network they intend to demonstrate the impact of a whole child approach as a sustainable strategy for school improvement, identify levels of change within such an approach, and study the needs of educators within the network so that they can develop effective and efficient programs, products, and services to meet those needs. Network schools will be supported by ASCD staff and resources through a comprehensive school improvement process utilizing the Whole Child Tenets and their indicators within a systemic framework. Applications for the initiative are due **April 30, 2012**.

Some basics for you to know before you apply:

- 10-15 schools will be selected.
- The application and network are open to all schools of any configuration, in the **United States and Canada** (PK-12; public, private, and charter).
- Selected schools will be notified in mid-May, 2012.
- Each school will receive a \$10,000 grant for the 2012-13 school year.
- School teams will participate in a WCN Summer Institute, July of 2012.
- Schools will receive capacity building and implementation support based on their needs assessment results.

If you are chosen, you receive the following benefits to support the implementation of a whole child approach:

- A \$10,000 grant for the 2012–13 school year, subject to review for renewal in the subsequent two school years. Grant renewal and continued participation in the network will be contingent upon the school's demonstrated progress and available funds.
- One full day of on-site training facilitated in partnership with ASCD staff to introduce the whole child approach within the school community.
- Each WCN school will also receive individualized support from ASCD in developing a plan to implement a whole child approach to education in their schools, including a needs assessment. The implementation will be

customized using both face-to-face training and virtual and print services, tools, and products that address the various needs identified by the assessment, such as instructional program improvements, job-embedded professional development, student support, health and safety, and teacher/leader effectiveness. As a result of this support and training, schools will be able to –

- Make the instructional and student support changes necessary to support school improvement efforts.
 - Build a culture of success in school and develop opportunities to expose students to college and career options and guidance.
 - Create opportunities for teachers and other staff to learn about, practice, implement, and evaluate research-based strategies that address identified problems and are aligned to school goals.
 - Establish practices to develop the conditions for learning within a positive school culture and climate.
- Other benefits for WCN schools include
 - One full day of on-site training facilitated in partnership with ASCD staff to introduce the whole child approach within the school community.
 - An all-expenses paid trip to [ASCD's 2013 Annual Conference](#) in Chicago, Ill., for up to five team members.
 - Opportunities to engage in other ASCD networks and events.
 - An [ASCD Institutional Membership](#) for each school.

The application itself and more information about the process may be found at www.ascd.org/wholechildnetwork.