

Virginia School University Partnership Newslink

Charlottesville, Virginia

JANUARY 2009

Volume 2, Issue 2

VSUP Partnership School Divisions

Albemarle
Amherst
Appomattox
Bedford
Buckingham
Buena Vista
Campbell
Charlottesville City
Clarke
Culpepper
Fredericksburg
Fluvanna
Greene
Hanover
Louisa
Madison
Manassas Park
Nelson
Orange
Rockbridge
Rockingham
Shenandoah
Staunton City
Warren
Waynesboro
Winchester
**Curry School –
University of Virginia**

Andy Stamp
VSUP Executive
Director

Dr. Janice Marston
VSUP Professional
Development Consor-
tium Director
434-352-5378
jmmarston@aol.com

July 19-22, 2009

McTIGHE-WAGNER TO KEYNOTE SUMMER 2009 CONFERENCE



McTighe



Wagner

Mark your calendar for July 19-21, 2009! The Virginia School University Partnership, in coordination with the Curry School of the University of Virginia, Albemarle Public Schools, and School-Net, Inc. will bring an exciting professional development conference to Charlottesville, Virginia— **EDUSTAT University 2009**. This year's conference will feature Jay

McTighe, author of the recently published book *Schooling by Design* and Tony Wagner, author of *Closing the Global Achievement Gap*.

The conference theme is *Education's Role in Re-Imagining America's Future* and will address 21st Century skills for school leaders and include a focus on the application of data to improve teaching and learning.

Case studies will be a new addition to this year's conference. Participants will attend sessions presented by school divisions cur-

rently using innovative approaches to problem solving, data use, and the application of 21st century skills.

Reduced registration fees are being offered to VSUP Consortium members at \$333 for individuals and \$750 for school to school division teams of three.

A tentative conference agenda is attached to the newsletter along with registration information. Complete registration information is posted on the Edustat website.

Please contact Janice Marston at 434-352-5378 for questions.

McCullough TO PRESENT LEAD TEACHER WORKSHOP—February 24



Laurie McCullough, VASCD Curriculum Leader of the Year, will lead the workshop

Building Capacity for Teacher Leadership-Teachers as School Leaders and Coaches on February 24, 2009.

The workshop is for teachers in leadership roles and will focus on helping to develop the skills necessary to serve as effective instructional leaders for colleagues. The session will address

the important aspects of leading change, including goal definition, building consensus, managing decision-making and measuring and celebrating progress.

Dr. Mc McCullough currently is Director of Instruction with Waynesboro City Schools (See attached flyer.)

Math and US History 1 Benchmark Test Bank Expands

School division representatives for Math and Social Studies Test Item Bank Workgroups met in Charlottesville in September, October, and November to develop and refine questions for the Test item Bank. A new project this year is the addition of Math 8 as a focus area.

Twenty-four school divisions (41 representa-

tives) are participating in the writing of math test questions for grades 6, 7, and 8.

A second new area of focus is US History 1. Twelve school divisions (17 representatives) are writing and vetting questions to be included in the US History 1 Test Item Bank.

Approximately 400 Math 6 and 7 test questions are currently in

the VSUP Test Item Bank. The additional new items in Math 6,7, and 8 and US History 1 are anticipated to be available to school divisions by early March. School divisions are using *Examview* to access test items for teachers and specialists.

Test Item Workgroups will meet on January 29, 2009.



Math Test Item Reviewers

"Differentiation is a way of teaching: it's not a program or package of workshops. It asks teachers to know their students well so they can provide each one with experiences and tasks that will improve learning."

-Laura Robb

LAURA ROBB TO PROVIDE LITERACY WORKSHOP



Dr. Laura Robb, noted author and reading expert will lead the workshop **Introduction to Differentiating Reading In-**

struction on March 10, 2009 at the Holiday Inn, Emmet Street, Charlottesville.

The workshop is intended for educators who face the challenge of motivating reluctant and struggling readers. The workshop will be offered in half day formats. Teachers attending the AM session from 8:30-12:30 will receive a copy of Robb's book *Differentiating*

Reading Instruction and participate in strategy development and practice. Practical tips and proven literacy practices will be shared. The afternoon session from 1:15 to 3:00 is for teachers who attended last year's workshop. The focus is Assessment and finding students' instructional reading levels and is a refresher for last year's workshop attendees.

PARTNERSHIP MEETING SCHEDULE 2009

STEERING COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 10
MAY 12

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CONSORTIUM

FEBRUARY 5
MAY 7

