

You Need to Know! the Virginia Principal - November, 2020

Hey Jim,



The LEAD

Connection. The word itself is not new or fancy, and is used often in daily conversation especially in education circles. As principals, navigating this new challenge of schooling during a pandemic, the importance of connections can be overshadowed by words such as safety, protocols and logistics. We may have forgotten, even temporarily, the power connection. Luckily, fate has a way of bringing us back to our why, reminding us what is important. That important moment for me, arrived on my school basketball court last week.

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Casey Conger, President-Elect, VAESP



[Principals get candid about COVID-19's toll on students and teachers](#)

Education DIVE

Principals' greatest COVID-19-related concerns right now center on overwhelmed teachers, tight budgets and equity in instruction, according to school leaders who spoke during a virtual Capitol Hill briefing Oct. 22 hosted by the American Federation of School Administrators, the National Association of Elementary School Principals and the National Association of Secondary School Principals to mark National Principals Month.

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[3 actions for assessing students' social-emotional learning skills](#)

District Administration Magazine

A student with a disability who regularly becomes distracted after lunch may be goofing off, feeling overwhelmed by the assignment or worried about the risk to his family's health in light of the novel coronavirus. Having a teacher observe the student's behavior, as well as that of the rest of his classmates, and using rating scales as a part of universal screenings three times a year, can help in identifying anyone who may need intervention within a multi-tier system of supports to be able to benefit from his education regardless of his circumstances.

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Calendar Check

VAESP Regional Virtual Zone Meetings. Meet regional colleagues and discuss issues facing all of us in this unique educational year.

Opportunities for rewards and door prizes for attendees.

November 16 at 5:00 pm - North East (Potomac, Northern, Eastern Zones)

November 17 at 5:00 pm - South (Southern, Southwestern, Piedmont, Valley Zones)

November 18 at 5:00 pm - Central (Shenandoah, Capital, Central)

December 9 at 5:00 pm - South East (Tidewater, Peninsula)

December 15 - VAESP Asst. Principal and Aspiring Administrator Virtual Workshop.

Must register to attend at www.vaesp.org

June 27-29, 2021, VAESP Conference Virginia Beach, Details and registration coming in December.

July 8-10, 2021, NAESP Annual Convention, Chicago, ILL



You PD'D? Jenn David Lang shares: Never has it been more clear that schools need to improve their grading and assessment

approaches than now, during this pandemic. There is a vital need to support *all* students, and yet many of us still unwittingly rely on inequitable practices and policies.

Rick Wormeli argues passionately for more ethical grading and assessment approaches in his book [*Fair Isn't Always Equal: Assessment and Grading in the Differentiated Classroom*](#)

If you want to work toward equity, this is the book to read. In addition to a summary with my PD ideas at the end, I also pulled 8 lessons from the book that are useful for the current pandemic - click the link or read below - and a great PD idea is to discuss this 1-pager with your staff! [8 Lessons Learned](#)

To learn more or purchase the book: [Stenhouse Publishers](#)

Community Chatter

VAESP Corporate Partners play a key role in the operations of our Association.

Throughout the last eight months, they have provided invaluable assets and resources to support our schools, students and staff as they navigated the new reality that is COVID-19. Each month we will highlight a few of our partners and share what it is that they have to offer you and your communities. Find out what they can do for you.

O'Brien Associates - SAVE BIG when you order popular and powerful Benchmark Education programs by **December 31, 2020**. Simply include one of the promo codes below on your P.O. or when you call us at **804-346-2424**. Interested in learning more? Contact your local sales rep [here](#) to select exactly the products you need.

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For complete details, click [HERE](#)

CLICK on the Benchmark link below and see additional resources.

<https://padlet.com/jyarberry/fn76hpw6w5r55xpr>

Successful Innovations - Join some of the nation's thought leaders and top educational influencers for an interactive day, **January 29, 2021**, discussing strategies to help you support equitable family engagement practices and learning opportunities for all students. Learn more at: [Equity and Engagement Academy](#)

NAESP National Aspiring Principals Academy Deadline Extended: Dec. 15, 2020

Are you a teacher leader, an assistant principal, or an early career principal searching for quality professional learning to take your leadership to the next level? If you are an aspiring leader who is committed to building your leadership knowledge, skills and dispositions to create a culture for improved student learning, then the National Aspiring Principals Academy will support your goal.

The **National Aspiring Principals Academy** prepares aspiring principals and early career principals to lead forward. Based on the Professional Standards for Educational Leaders, the academy is a blended program designed to support the continued development and growth of the educator, and is relevant to the experiences of today's leader. It utilizes an applied approach that includes addressing lessons learned in these unprecedented times. Participants build and expand the knowledge, skills, and dispositions that help them lead with compassion and purpose with an eye on equity. Throughout their administrative careers, academy graduates can tap into the networks they build, the mentoring relationships made, and the resources accessed.

For more information on the program and how to apply for acceptance, please visit naesp.org/NAPA.

[Learn More](#) [Apply](#)



Our Corporate Partners



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