



**Manitoba ASCD**  
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For more information visit our web site at  
[www.mbascd.ca](http://www.mbascd.ca)  
or contact Paulette by email at  
[mbascd@shaw.ca](mailto:mbascd@shaw.ca) or  
by phone at 204-510-7271.

## President's Report



**Jayesh Maniar**

Teaching is the single most important profession in the world. More than passing on knowledge, we prepare our young for their future, the future of humanity, and the future of this beautiful Earth. I want to thank each and every one of you for the work you do to encourage, engage, and motivate your students. What you do does and will make a difference.

Manitoba ASCD Continues to provide high quality professional learning opportunities. On October 18, 2012, Dr. Eric Jensen challenged participants to help students living in poverty overcome the effects of brain deterioration by using strategies that increase neuron production and experience academic success to a high degree. We hosted a professional learning opportunity featuring Canadians Dr. Kieran Egan and Dr. Gillian Judson. Their workshop was on engaging imagination and emotion in learning to develop cognitive tools to enhance learning through language and cultural processes. It was highly engaging and though provoking. For our May 9, 2013 workshop, we present Dr. Mike Schmoker on the topic of *First Things First for the 21st Century*. He will combine three aspects important to improve performance in our students, mainly, coherent curriculum, authentic literacy, and soundly-structured lessons.

This year, the ASCD Annual Conference is in Chicago from March 16-18, 2013. This conference offers world class presenters on many relevant topics. Please refer to [ascd.org](http://ascd.org) for more information on the conference. Some Winnipeg educators that have attended this conference in the past have indicated that it is a worthwhile conference; it is engaging, informative, and practical.

The Board of Directors of Manitoba ASCD values your membership and participation. We encourage you to get involved with one of our committees to help serve Manitoba teachers in their goal to give the best possible education to our students.

I want to recognize the hard work of our Board members as well as members of our various committees. Their energy, dedication, and commitment needs to be commended.

Jayesh Maniar  
President

The views expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of ASCD

# MANITOBA ASCD PRESENTS



Mike Schmoker

## Focus: First Things First for the 21st Century

Tuesday, May 9, 2013  
CanadInns Regent

In this session, participants will learn precisely where to focus their precious time, efforts and resources to ensure that all students are prepared for the 21st century demands of college, careers and citizenship. They will learn about the three most essential elements of good schooling, and how to implement them immediately, successfully and on a very clear and straightforward model. The three elements are:

- Coherent curriculum
- Authentic literacy
- Soundly structured lessons

Despite their unrivalled power for improving performance in any and every school, these elements continue to be misunderstood - and grossly under-implemented. For this reason, these simple, familiar elements should be **our first and highest priority**.

Participants will leave this session knowing both what to do and how to do it, in ways that will



Richard Allington  
We Could Teach Them All to Read,  
But Will We?  
October 10, 2013



Karen Hume  
Thursday, February 20, 2014



Penny Kittle  
Thursday, May 18, 2014

LEARN

TEACH

LEAD

UPCOMING Speakers — please mark your calendars



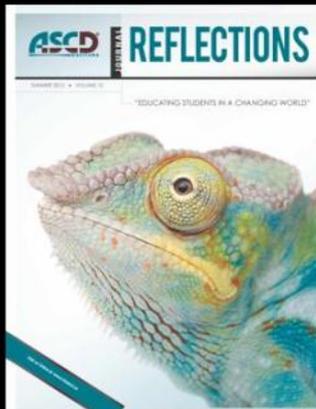
The *Reflections* journal provides a forum for the exchange of current theory, research and classroom practice, as well as the release of news of particular interest to Manitoba educators at all levels.

If you are interested in sharing research you have conducted, telling us about your experiences in the classroom, or explaining your views of complex issues and the solutions you have found to address problems shared by others in your position, we would like to hear from you.

Please review the theme and the *Submission Guidelines* below and contact our editor for any clarification you may require.

# Journal Theme 2013

## Embracing Diversity, Navigating Change



# REFLECTIONS

## 2013

### Call for Submissions

### Submission Guidelines

- Articles can range from 1000-2000 words (4-8 pages) in length. Shorter submissions are also welcome.
- Please be sure to include:
  - Title of the article
  - Author's full name
  - Position and place of employment
  - Mailing address
  - Phone number
  - Email address
  - 2-3 sentences about the background of the author(s)
- Submit articles electronically to **brendalanoway@shaw.ca**
- For articles, pages should be numbered consecutively, including the bibliography.
- APA (5.0) style is required for all in-text citations and reference lists.
- Canadian usage and spelling is required.
- Charts, pictures or illustrative materials are encouraged, but will be included on the basis of quality and availability of space. Such materials should be sent as separate files and of a quality ready to publish.

**Short submissions on classroom ideas, letters to the editor, book reviews and graphics are always welcome.**

Authors are expected to take full responsibility for the accuracy of the content in their articles, including references, quotations, tables and figures.

Articles will be peer-reviewed and authors will be contacted regarding requests for clarification or revision.

**Deadline for written submissions:  
March 15, 2013**

**For more information, contact:**

Brenda Lanoway, Editor  
brendalanoway@shaw.ca

## ***Teaching with Poverty in Mind, Eric Jensen, October 2012***

by Phyllis Geddert

Eric Jensen graced the ASCD stage at the Caboto Centre with personal story and research and a belief in the value of students' active involvement in learning. His "high energy" approaches had participants creating movement sequences and exploring interactive learning models that would be used in the classroom "next week", as a new teacher exclaimed!

In this workshop, Eric Jensen offered insights and practical strategies for academic success for students from poverty. He explored the science of brains of poverty and what educators can do to reach students and promote their academic success. Understanding how educators' responses influence students of poverty is, he believes, an important part of breaking a pattern of failure. Using practical, positive and research-based ways to "skyrocket" learning, Eric infused his delivery with the interactive strategies educators can use to promote motivated learning and high levels of achievement for children of poverty. He suggests that teachers who criticize, hold negative attitudes and use sarcasm as classroom discipline will activate the fear and stress areas of the student's brain. This activation alters the student's ability to think and learn. Without relationships, hope and coping skills, the most likely outcome for children from poverty is detachment or anger.

What are some things we can do to reach our students? Here are a few mind habits that influence others' cognitive ability, behaviours, effort and attitude. Perhaps simply stated, Eric believes we need to, *relentlessly and daily*, be

G - Grateful for something

N - Share our "New learning"

L - Look forward to "what will bring joy"

Build relationships, be positive, be dependable! Successful relationships are based on respect, showing you care, and common goals. Without positive relationships, students care about little else. Relationships that are good reduce stress! Give the students a sense of control over their lives and give them coping skills. Students in chronic stress will act out in class. Manage your own stress. Never, ever, give up on students; they'll sense it and give up on you, too. This is a brief sampling of Eric's success tips.

Three differences between children from low SES compared upper and middle SES include; Acute or chronic stress; Cognitive stimulation; Emotional support. What is our part, according to Jensen? We create the climate for learning and our instruction makes the difference. "Smart, purposeful, and targeted instruction *will change* the student's brain.

How do students' brains respond if they have grown up in poverty? If their relationships are filled with hope and skills, they can make it big in life. Good teaching over-rides the effects of the genes! Strong teaching changes the learning! We can influence kids' effort, behaviour, attitude, and cognitive capacity. These are teachable. Eric attests to this as a passionate witness, energized educator, and relentless troubadour with an important message.

***"Good teaching matters more than you think; especially over time" Eric Jensen***

## **Thank you to the 2012 - 2013 Manitoba ASCD Manitoba Board!**

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