EDUCATION Matters
in the Southwestern Union Conference
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Volume 27 • Issue 2

Support for Shifts in Teaching and Learning

by Carol Campbell, Vice President for Education

The tools we use serve to determine to a large degree the way in which we think about things. In *A Whole New Mind*, 2005, Daniel Pink traces the development of society in terms of the tools at use during different ages.

Agriculture Age—Farmers
Industrial Age—Factory Workers
Information Age—Knowledge Workers
Conceptual Age—Creators and Empathizers

Now think of these ages in terms of educational practices. During the Agriculture Age, few children attended school because they were needed on the farm. This changed during the Industrial Age with many parents and some children at work in factories. Formal schooling took on an added importance to prepare children for roles in society. Interestingly enough, schools were organized to model efficient assembly lines. As a result of technological advances during the Information Age, access to information exploded and many individuals became knowledge workers. Currently, the Conceptual Age dominates a number of workplaces. To make ever-expanding knowledge manageable, workers need to be able to think conceptually about information rather than processing it in a linear fashion.

Educational practices have been slower to adapt to the changing culture. In fact, the factory model still serves to define the organization of many of our classrooms. However, shifts in learning and teaching practices have begun to emerge over the past couple of decades that align with more conceptual thinking. Some of these changes have been noted in the chart below (adapted from Fullan and Quinn, World Education Summit, 2023).

Shifts in Learning and Teaching Practices

TRADITIONAL	→	DEEP
Transmits existing knowledge		Real world authentic, problem solving
Teacher driven, compliance-oriented		Student voice, choice, agency as co-designer
Student is passive		Student is an engaged, independent inquirer
Learning is impersonal		Learning has purpose & meaning based on interest and need

So how do we support the transition to deeper learning and teaching practices? One of the goals is to develop a common language for both teachers and students that leads to maximum impact for learning. To use an analogy from business, if you want a return, you have to make an investment; and if you want to make an investment, you need to have capital to invest. In *Professional Capital* (2012), Andy Hargreaves and Michael Fullan define professional capital as the combination of human capital (knowledge and skills of individual educators), social capital (enhancing human capital through professional relationships), and decision capital (practice sharpened by human and social capital over time).



Professional Capital is being developed in Southwestern Union schools through the use of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). A PLC is a collaborative culture that is committed to continuous improvement and collective responsibility for teaching and learning, through active learning, modeling, and coaching. Initial data indicates that the process is having a significant impact on student learning. In addition, educators who have participated in PLCs are beginning to define learning as a "two-way street:" student learning depends on every teacher learning all the time! Thus, schools should be places where both adults and students learn. When educators learn, students learn more.

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PURPOSE

Convention—The NAD Educators' Convention is scheduled for August 7–10, 2023 in Phoenix. The Union covers the cost of hotel and registration/meals; conferences cover travel and per diem. Three meals will be served at the convention center (Tuesday and Wednesday lunches; Tuesday dinner). Educators will be given per diem to cover other meals while at the convention. The SWUC educators will be staying at the Sheraton Phoenix Downtown.



Hotel Reservations
NAD is still working on hotel reservations. Each teacher will eventually receive a confirmation from the hotel. Any changes in reservations will be made through your conference education office.

Convention Website
The new convention website is NADEducatorsConvention.org .

Convention App
An app from EventCadence will be used for convention information, programming, breakouts, speakers, vendors, and announcements. An invitation will be sent to each registered attendee. You will have an option to create groups on the app, such as a group from a conference or a school. The group can be used for communication and meeting opportunities. A QR code on the badge will also activate the app.

Guest Registration
You may register a spouse or child by contacting your conference office of education.

Leadership Camp—Leadership Camp is September 14–17, 2023 at Lone Star Camp. Leadership Camp is sponsored by the Southwestern Union Conference Office of Education and Southwestern Adventist University. Activities and seminars are planned just for academy student leaders of classes and student organizations.

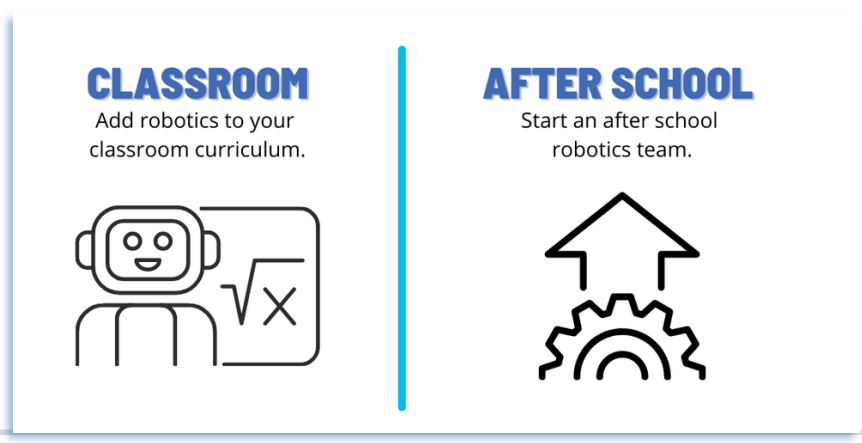
Education by Design Scholarship—In the fall of 2023, you will receive information from the Union treasury regarding the Education by Design Scholarship. This scholarship opportunity is mailed directly to the principal or head teacher of each school.

Recruitment of Teachers—Two initiatives regarding the recruitment of teachers have been developed: SWUC Teacher Education Scholarship and SWAU Intro to Teaching Dual Credit Course. Contact Dr. Cheryl The at SWAU if an academy would like to offer the Intro to Teaching Course.

PLAN

Library Resources—The Southwestern Adventist University Library has developed a collection of open-source resources for academy students that can be found here.

Robotics Grant—Robotics Grant Applications are due July 1. The grant will enable your school to purchase some basic equipment to begin a robotics program.



Education Code Edits—The Junior Academy Science Subsidy has increased. When a junior academy spends $1,000 on science equipment and supplies, $500 will be reimbursed to the school, divided evenly by the conference and the union.

The Senior Academy Science Subsidy has also increased. When a senior academy spends $1,800 on new science equipment, $1,200 will be reimbursed to the school, divided evenly by the conference and the union.

See the attached forms for each subsidy or the *Southwestern Union Education Code*, 2031 and 2036.

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PRACTICE

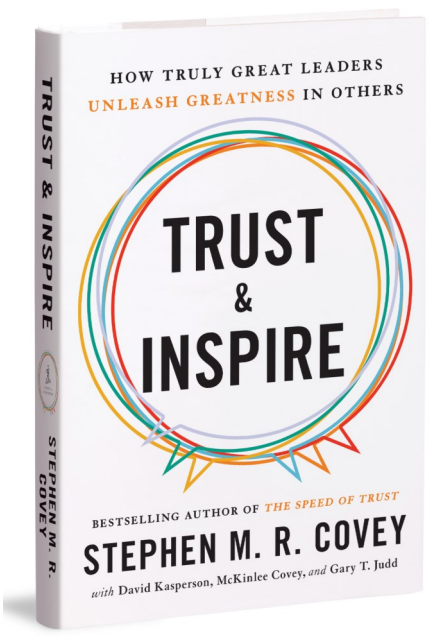
Webinars—See the attached flyers for 2023–2024 Educator and Parent Webinars. Dates for the Parent Webinars will be announced soon.

History Teachers' Workshop—During the fall of 2023, the Union will plan to collaborate with SWAU again and have a workshop for secondary history teachers. Details will be shared when they are available.

Featured Book Review—

Trust and Inspire: How Truly Great Leaders Unleash Greatness in Others, 2022
Author: Stephen M. R. Covey

In many ways, we have a leadership crisis, where even though our world has changed significantly, our leadership style has not. Most organizations still operate from a model of "command and control;" the author calls for a radical shift to a model of "trust and inspire." People don't want to be managed; they want to be led. The shift begins with the belief that people are creative, collaborative, and full of potential.



PRODUCT

Data—Survey Data is available on Union-wide implementation of Continuous School Improvement (CSI) and Standards-based Learning (SBL).

AE Connect—A new NAD SIS is currently in development. There will be a pilot for next school year (23'–24') for select schools. Much thought is being put into class structure and gradebook. If you would like to participate in development focus groups, please email Martha Ban at marthaban@nadadventist.org.

2022-2023 Excellence in Teaching Award

Joy Mangasin
Jones Creek Adventist Academy
Arkansas-Louisiana Conference

Daniel Spooner
Parkview Adventist Academy
Oklahoma Conference

Sheree Kelly
Excel Adventist Academy
Southwest Region Conference

Aimee Garcia
Killeen Adventist Jr. Academy
Texas Conference

Kim Hutchinson
Keene Adventist Elementary School
Texas Conference

Melanie Cano
Sandia View Christian School
Texico Conference

Jacelin Cadet
Burton Adventist Academy
Texas Conference

Brian Hack
South Texas Christian Academy
Texas Conference



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