

2012

## Letter From the Editor

Clayton Pelon  
*Grand Valley State University*

Follow this and additional works at: <http://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/colleagues>

---

### Recommended Citation

Pelon, Clayton (2012) "Letter From the Editor," *Colleagues*: Vol. 9: Iss. 1, Article 5.  
Available at: <http://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/colleagues/vol9/iss1/5>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks@GVSU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Colleagues by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@GVSU. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@gvsu.edu](mailto:scholarworks@gvsu.edu).

energy, thick skin, organizational skills, and much, much more (Darling-Hammond, 2010).

The science in our field offers many potential solutions to the complex problems we face. Research in our field is as close as we can come to a *conclusion of fact*. And, we argue, research should always be a basis for reform.

We sincerely hope that this article will serve as a think piece or conversation starter for how we as educators can respond to the many reforms we face. Writing it was not easy, and we are well aware that some of what we included might not be well received. We do not have a strong desire to be personally “right” or to win a debate about this topic, but we do have a desire to move our field forward—this field that we dearly love—to build it up and gain back some of the autonomy that has been lost. We look forward to your comments, questions, and criticisms.

*The authors wish to thank Dr. Cynthia Mader for her tremendous assistance on this article. Once again, her clear thinking has made our work better.*

## References

Curtis, D. , Bordelon, D., & Teitelbaum, K. (2010). Keep a focus on meaningful reform efforts instead of political agendas. *Planning and Changing*. 41(3/4), 13-146.

Darling-Hammond, L. (2010). Teacher education and the American future. *Journal of Teacher Education* 61(1-2), 35-47.

Education Commission of the States (2010). *The Progress of Education Reform: Teacher Merit Pay*. 11(3). Author: Washington, D.C.

Emerson, R. W. (1841). History. *Essays, First Series*.

National Research Council (2011) *Incentives and Test Based Accountability in Education*. Committee on Incentives and Test-Based Accountability in Public Education, M. Hout and S.W. Elliott, Editors. Board on Testing and Assessment, Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press.

Supovitz, J. (2009). Can high stakes testing leverage educational improvement? Prospects from the last decade of testing and accountability reform? *Journal of Educational Change* (10), 211-227.

Tucker, M. S. (2011). Standing on the shoulders of giants: An American agenda for education reform. National Center on Education and the Economy: Washington DC.

Waterhouse, L. (2006). Inadequate evidence for multiple intelligence, Mozart effect, and emotional intelligence theories. *Educational Psychologist* 41(4), 247-255.



## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

# Intense Interest Around Reform

I hope you become active in the educational reform debate after reading this issue. Educational reform has been in the front of my thoughts due to the fast paced activity in legislatures across the United States. Keeping track of proposed changes is very difficult with the number of sweeping bills being proposed. Our public school system is changing and it is our duty to stay informed. I hope this issue contributes to your knowledge and interest in education reform.

An article that I would highly recommend, for much needed perspective, was written by Jack Jennings entitled “Reflections on a Half-Century of School Reform: Why

Have We Fallen Short and Where Do We Go From Here?” This must read article is available for free from the Center on Education Policy at <http://www.cep-dc.org/display-Document.cfm?DocumentID=392>.

Interest in this issue has been high after the topic focus was announced. The contributors to this issue have given their best work to Colleagues and to you. Thank you as always to the volunteers that make Colleagues an award-winning publication.

Clayton Pelon  
Editor-in-Chief

# “Free innovative classroom-ready media available to every teacher and student.”

Combining dynamic and engaging instructional content with professional development support, PBS LearningMedia empowers educators to create media-rich curriculum lessons that meet the needs of 21st century learners. Over 14,000 resources for grades K-16.



[wgvu.pbslearningmedia.org](http://wgvu.pbslearningmedia.org)



To learn more about all of WGUV's Educational Programs, visit [wgvu.org/engage](http://wgvu.org/engage) and click on the EDUCATION button.

