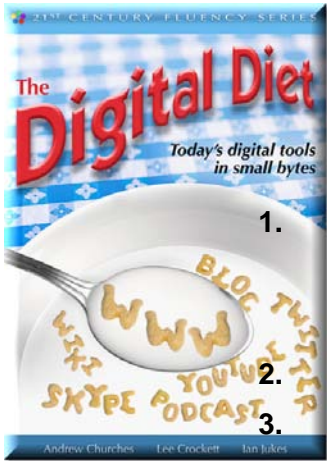


Discussion questions for May, 2010

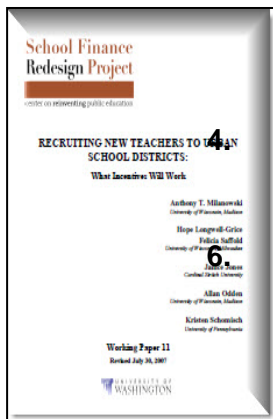
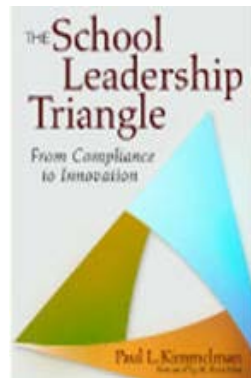
Main interview:



1. The premise behind The Digital Diet is that teachers need to understand and respect how children learn in this digital age. Are we doing that? What evidence is there for believing that we are / aren't?
2. What are some assumptions that might be standing in the way of more effectively using technology to teach in the classroom (i.e., children learn best by the lecture format)
3. Jukes and Crockett state in the interview the main purpose is to teach 21st Century skills. How well are we (your school) doing in teaching these skills?

Learning Point:

4. Dr. Paul Kimmelman states that there is a three part foundation for improved academic achievement. One is federal policy compliance. Two is effective leadership and three is innovation. Describe how well your district is performing in those three areas - identify the degree of innovation you see in your district.



Updates:

5. Dr. Anthony Milanowski states in his update that teachers value a good principal (effective leadership) and a good support system than they do additional salary - up to \$5,000. Do you agree? How do you rate your system in attracting the best and encouraging the best teachers to accept the most difficult assignments?

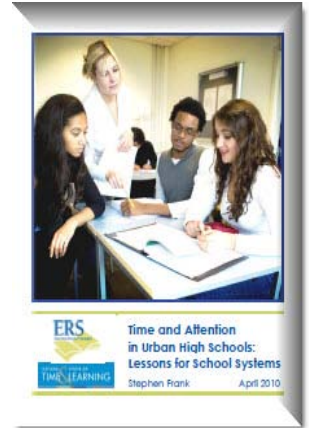
6. Are "gizmos" something that you find interesting? Is this something you would like to add to your teacher resources?

Discussion points:

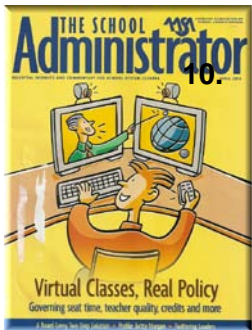
7. A new report says there is a strong correlation between a child's health and the odds of dropping out. Does your school flag students with poor attendance as high risk?

8. A new report suggests we waste time in schools. How effectively and efficiently does your school use time? Has the use of time / schedules changed?

9. Do you see an achievement gap between boys and girls in your school? What can or should you be doing about this?



Articles:



10. Is your high school or middle school offering any online programs? What plans do you have in three / five years to offer these classes? What are the benefits / risks / obstacles?

Final Word:

11. Dr. Fiore talks about "selling" a good deal to a parent that faces a child's suspension. Do you have any tactics to use when telling "bad" news to a parent?

