FOCUS AREAS OF ASCD
LONG-RANGE PLANNING
Education and Care of Young Children. After considering population, social, and learning trends, ASCD identified the education and care of young children as a major program emphasis in its strategic plan. The topic of "public school programs for four- and five-year-old children" will be the theme of a mini-conference planned for 9–11 December 1987 in Alexandria, Virginia. An expert panel will meet in January 1988 to consider the issues around education and care of young children as a theme of a mini-conference planned for four- and five-year-old children. The topic of "public school programs and learning trends, ASCD identified the Education and Care of Young Children as a major program emphasis in its strategic plan."

ASCD in Action

Recent Products

Books

Strategic Teaching and Learning. Edited by Beau Fly Jones and others. Drawing on recent research in human learning, the editors present a model of teaching that focuses on student thinking and understanding. Experts in science, social studies, math, and literature describe strategies for incorporating thinking and learning into the classroom. ASCD members may join.

UPCOMING NATIONAL CURRICULUM STUDY INSTITUTES

See page 64 for NCSI schedule.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Policy Analysis. An expert panel will meet this month to consider the teaching of American History. The panel will develop a process for selecting values at the local level, emphasize curricular practices that have proven effective in moral education, and consider the relationship of morality to the teaching and the responsibilities of schools and parents.

CONSORTIUMS

Elementary Consortium on Teaching Thinking. With ASCD encouragement, teams representing 25 elementary schools from across the nation engaged in a two-year effort to improve the teaching of student thinking in their schools. Highlights of this two-year effort will be reported in Update, and a book is planned later. Project Facilitator: Diane G. Berreth, Director of Field Services.

Restructuring Education. This year ASCD is planning a consortium of schools engaged in restructuring education, and will focus several NCSIs and publications on this area of the strategic plan. Project Facilitator: Diane G. Berreth, Director of Field Services.

CURRENT PROJECTS


Curriculum Trends Studies. ASCD has undertaken a series of longitudinal studies of elementary, middle, and secondary school curriculum trends that will be repeated in five-year cycles. The elementary study and the secondary study were reported in Curriculum Update in April 1985 and August 1986. For copies of the reports, send $1 and a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the ASCD Fulfillment Department. A national study of middle-level schools is under way. Results will be available at the Boston 1988 Annual Conference. Project Facilitator: Helene Hodges, Director of Research and Information.

Future American Education and Planning

To assist middle school faculties in designing educational experiences appropriate to the future lives of students. Each school will produce a long-range plan for organizing the school, improving the core curriculum, improving teaching, and making better use of educational technology. Project Facilitator: Paul George, University of Florida.

High School Futures Consortium. Teams from the 27 high schools selected to participate began training in Colorado in July to develop individual long-range plans for their schools in the areas of curriculum, school organization, improving teaching, and the use of educational technology. Project Facilitator: Gordon Cawelti, Executive Director.

UPCOMING ANNUAL CONFERENCES

1989. Orlando, 11–14 March
1990. San Antonio, 3–6 March
1992. New Orleans, 6–10 March

For project, product, or conference information, write or call ASCD, 125 N. West St., Alexandria, VA 22314-2798, (703) 549-9110. Switchboard hours are 9-5, Monday through Friday.