



**Welcome Back!**



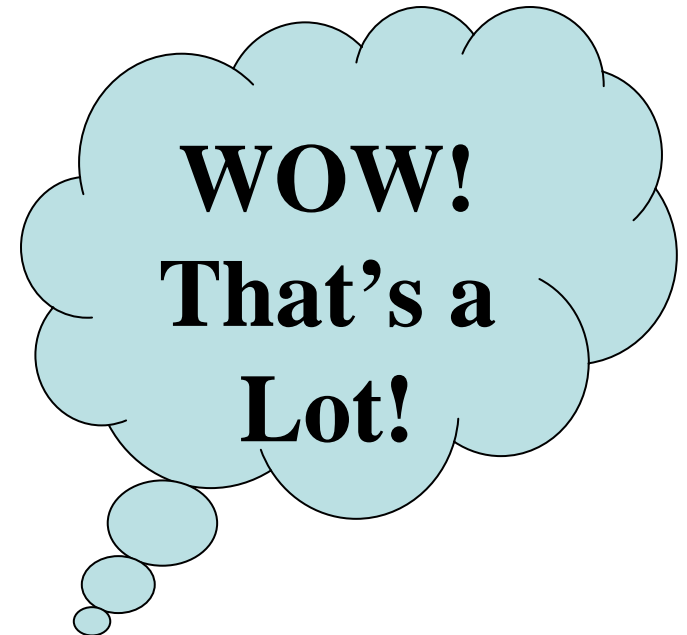
**“The Old and the New”**



## **“Hey, what’s new at SPS?”**

---

- **26 new teachers**
- **7 new ESPs**
- **2 new staff in District Office**
- **4 new principals**
- **2 new assistant principals**
- **1 new dean of students**
- **3 new literacy coaches**
- **1 new elementary enrichment teacher**





# These Retiring Staff Aren't Old, They're Just Experienced

**Peg Albert**

**Tom DePasquale**

**Sue Fitzgerald**

**Gloria Noack**

**Peggy Potthoff**

**Myra Sargent**

**Kathy Thome**

**Sue Wolf**

**Cheryl Bianchi**

**Marla Esnard**

**Diane Mekeel**

**Jodi Perez**

**Lisa Rechkemmer**

**Karen Still**

**Judy Warner**

**Over  
300  
Years!**



**“So, what’s really important to you?”**

---

**1 Safety and security**

A yellow notepad with a brown top edge and blue horizontal lines. The number "1" is written in black on the notepad. To the right of the notepad is a red apple with a green leaf and a brown stem.

**Student Learning**

A yellow notepad with a brown top edge and blue horizontal lines. The number "2" is written in black on the notepad. To the right of the notepad are two crayons, one red and one blue, crossed over each other.

**Respectfully  
collaborating  
with one another**

A yellow notepad with a brown top edge and blue horizontal lines. The number "3" is written in black on the notepad. To the right of the notepad is a wooden ruler with black markings.



# Student Learning

---

**Let's look at  
student learning  
from an old and  
new perspective**



## The Old - What's Shaped Student Learning

**What educational reform from the last 50 years has had the greatest impact on teaching and learning?**



## The Old - What's Shaped Student Learning

**Many believe it was  
recently with the No  
Child Left Behind  
Act of 2001**



## The Old - What's Shaped Student Learning

**Others believe it was  
the Standards-Based  
Education movement  
of the 1990s**



## **The Old - What's Shaped Student Learning**

**Other educators have mentioned reforms and events such as:**

- A Nation At Risk (1983)**
- The Sputnik Science & Math movement (1957)**



## The Old - What's Shaped Student Learning

**To me, The Coleman Report of 1966 has been the most influential piece of educational reform in the last 75 years**



# What was the Coleman Report?

---



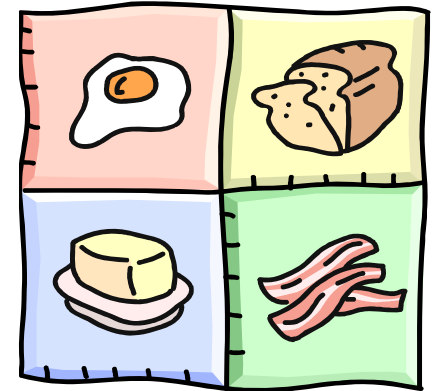
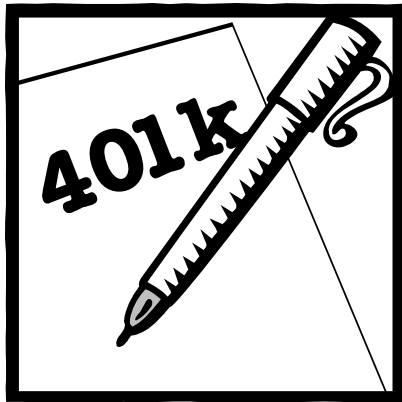
James Coleman with students

**“That though public schools are a great force today in our nation, there are other forces for which have a far greater influence on the ability of a child to learn.”**

**- James Coleman**



## What was the Coleman Report?



**Coleman goes on to mention factors such as poverty, nutrition, ethnicity, mobility, and family structure are the most important factors on a child's ability to learn!**



## What was the Coleman Report?

**So, why is the Coleman Report such a big deal to education?**





**Why is this so important?**

**Because to me, it has molded the way we as educators look at those students who are not learning.**



## What about you?

---

**So, which one of these do you believe is the greatest factor that impacts a child's ability to learn?**

- **Poverty**
- **Nutrition**
- **Ethnicity**
- **Mobility**
- **Family Structure**

**Or, is there another factor not mentioned?**



## Why Is This so Important?

**I believe when a child is not learning, we in education tend to make defensive excuses as to why**



## Why Is This so Important?

**If you do not hear anything else I say today, please hear and remember this one thing:**

**The biggest factor in a child's learning . . .**



**Make No Mistake About It . . .**

---

**is you!**



## You Are the Key Factor

**Don't you dare let anyone deflate how important your job is, because you alone are the biggest factor to every child's learning!**



**Don't believe me?**

---

**The 90/90/90  
research backs this  
theory**



**Don't believe me?**

---

**Here's what some  
educational experts say  
about YOU being the  
key factor in a child's  
learning . . .**



**HARVARD** GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION  
*Programs in Professional Education*



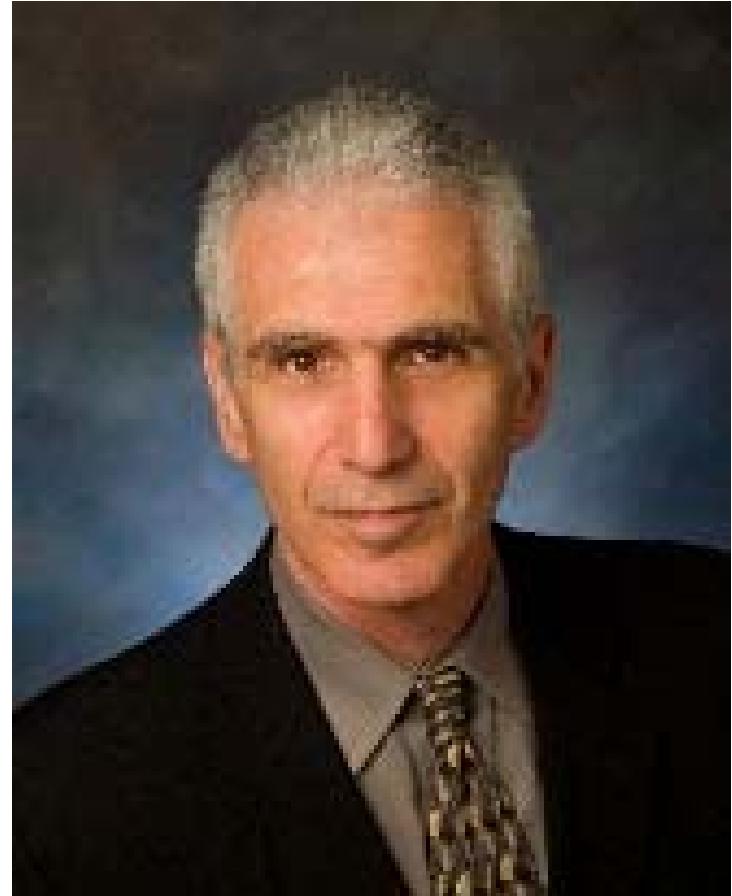
***Robert Peterkin***

***Harvard HISL Chairperson***

“Making good teaching happen for every child, every day, in every classroom, is the single most important means by which schools can deliver on their promise to enable all children to learn and achieve at high levels.”

Marzano  
& Associates

The most critical factor for student learning is to ensure that effective teaching is occurring in every classroom



**Dr. Robert Marzano**

**From his book, “Getting Serious About School Reform: The Three Critical Commitments”**



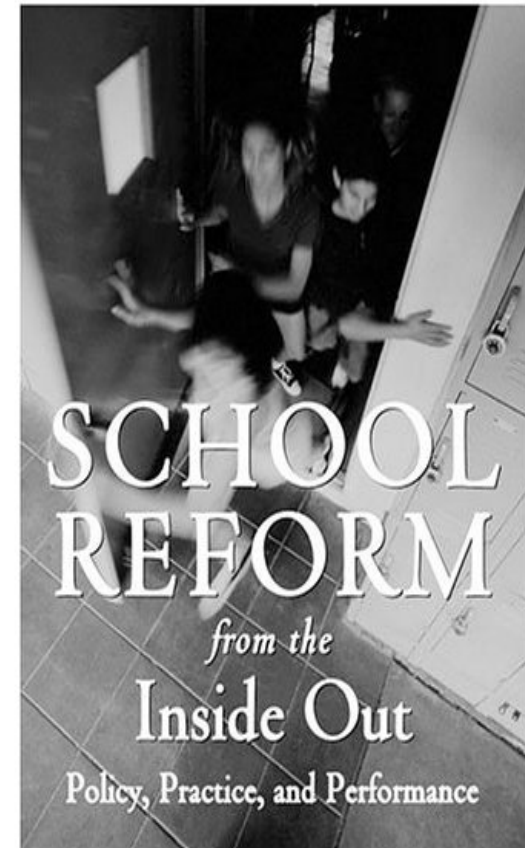
**HARVARD** GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION  
*Programs in Professional Education*



**“Teachers are  
the most  
influential  
variable to  
student  
achievement!”**

**Richard Elmore**  
Professor of Educational Leadership; Director,  
Consortium for Policy Research in Education,  
Harvard Graduate School of Education

RICHARD F. ELMORE





**Mary Russo, Principal**  
***Richard J. Murphy Elementary***

**Boston  
Public  
Schools**



**“There is no secret. The only way to improve student achievement is the hard-work of improving teaching strategies.”**

- **Education Director of the Gates Foundation, Ms. Vicki Phillips speaking at the Education Commission of the States (ECS) Annual Meeting on July 2, 2008**
- ***The Gates Foundation's Five Goals:***
  1. **Stop the transmission of HIV/AIDS**
  2. **Eradicate malaria and polio**
  3. **Improve nutrition and sanitation in the developing world**
  4. **Create opportunities for the world's poorest to lift themselves out of poverty**
  5. **And, in the U.S., dramatically increase college readiness and college completion rates**

- **To prepare students for college, we have to focus on the work that teachers and students do together and the quality of the student-teacher interaction.**
- **What happens inside the classroom has the greatest impact on learning.**
- **You know, teachers matter. They matter the most!**

- **The importance of effective teaching is so powerful that researchers studying high schools in North Carolina found that having a class with a strong teacher had an impact 14 times greater than having a class with five fewer students.**
- **Unless we have great teachers in the classroom, the rest of it is just window dressing.**



## You Are the Key Factor

---

Though not scientifically proven, many educators believe there is nearly a 100% direct connectivity between the quality of instruction and student learning



So, what's the “new” part?

---

- **First of all, we need to believe that!**
- **When we do, it changes everything!**



So, what's the “new” part?

---

**Secondly, since we believe it is true, our focus needs to be on supporting and developing teaching practices?**



**Dr. Yvette Jackson  
Chief Executive Officer,  
National Urban Alliance**

**“As educators we must realize that before our kids will change, we must change. We must change by getting better at what we do, which is teaching kids how to learn.”**



## Please Understand . . .

---

- **Don't take this as I'm saying you are not great teachers, because you are!**
- **I'm asking, how much better can you be?**
  - **No excuses attitude**
  - **Olympic Athletes**



RADCLIFFE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY



*Dr. John Diamond*  
*Harvard University*  
*Sociology Department*

“A common teacher statement is, I’m doing the best that I can, with the knowledge that I have.”



## Key Point

---

**When you are a better teacher, your kids are better learners!**

Outstanding  
methods of  
instruction

=

Outstanding  
student  
achievement



## **“New” part #3**

---

- 1. Believe that you are the biggest factor in a child’s learning!**
- 2. Understand our need to continually improve our skills**
- 3. Understand our “new” students of today are very different from us**
  - As learners and what motivates them**



# Generation Y and Z Research

---

- 1. They are not just technology users, their life is lived thru technology**
  - How much is technology a part of your every day class?
- 2. They believe they are the generation of entitlement**
  - Remember this when establishing your classroom environment
- 3. They are social multi-taskers, who demand to be engaged**
  - How engaging is your class?



## Key Question . . .

---

- **If we truly have our students interest at heart, are we willing to change for them?**
  
- **Maybe a better question is . . .  
Do our students come daily to learn in our schools, or do we come daily to teach in theirs?**



## Student Technology Video

---

**“A Vision of K-12 Students Today”**

**This video was created by students  
for today’s teachers**



**Have a great year!!!**