

From the American Enterprise Institute

Frederick (Rick) Hess at AEI – American Enterprise Institute – approaches education issues as an honest broker and with a critical lens. Two of his recent books, which focus on policy implications of supporting innovative schools, are:

- “the same thing over and over: How School Reformers Get Stuck in Yesterday’s Ideas” (Harvard University Press: 2010)
- “Education Unbound: The Promise and Practice of Greenfield Schooling” (ASCD: 2010)

Rick also writes a daily blog for Ed Week, focused on national education reform issues, and to which people can subscribe via email. Here’s his latest column:

"Gov. Walker's Recall Win Is Good News for Schooling

http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/rick_hess_straight_up/2012/06/gov_walkers_recall_win_is_good_news_for_schooling.html

Systemic Education Reform from the Practitioners’ Perspective (i.e., Education leaders who are successfully achieving it.)

Terry Holliday and Brenda Clark, “Running All the Red Lights,” (ASQ Quality Press: 2010) –

Terry was Superintendent of Iredell-Statesville Schools in NC and Brenda was his Associate Superintendent for Learning when the district won the National Baldrige Award in 2008. I first met Brenda when she was Principal of Azalea Elementary School in St. Petersburg, FL – one of the first education recipients of the FL Sterling (Baldrige-based) award. Terry currently is KY Commissioner of Education and Brenda is an independent consultant working with school districts on transformation issues. Their book contains a lot of practical advice and data.

Transforming Teaching: Barnett Berry, “Teaching 2030: What We Must Do for Our Students and Our Public Schools...Now and in the Future” (Teachers College

Press, 2011); provides thoughtful historical background on teacher reform issues and the key policy issues moving forward.

Transforming Learning: written primarily for teachers – both contain a lot of practical info on how schools need to change in order to engage today’s students, based on how they learn
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- Jessica K. Parker, “Teaching Tech-Savvy Kids: Bringing Digital Media Into the Classroom, Grades 5-12 (Corwin Press: 2010)
- Mark Prensky, “Teaching Digital Natives: Partnering for Real Learning (Corwin Press: 2010.) Both are practical guide books

Other sources that place creativity/innovation in both a **broader and a personalized context:**

- Tom Kelley, "The Art of Innovation" (Doubleday: 2001) Kelley is general manager of Silicon Valley's IDEO, one of the world's leading design consultant companies; he describes innovation as a design process with real world examples from corporations. The book demystifies innovation and, I think, helps people, beyond the rhetoric, understand what innovation really entails.
- Daniel Pink, "Drive," (Riverhead/Penguin Books: 2009). A lot of educators read Pink (also the author of "A Whole New Mind" that focused on creativity and right-brained thinking.) In his latest book, Pink documents the importance of intrinsic incentives based on motivation, mastery, and purpose, in "driving" behavior—a great reminder during the current push to determine causality between teacher effectiveness and student performance.
- David Tyack and Larry Cuban, "Tinkering Toward Utopia: A Century of Public School Reform" (Harvard University Press, 1995). This book examines many of the complex issues and insitutions that drive educational reform. Explores some of the basic questions about the nature of educational reform.