

September 6, 2005

Message From the Chair—Dick Johanson

Last week will be noted by historians for generations. Never before has nature so devastated our nation. As this is written, thousands remain without possessions of any kind. Having just returned from a couple of weeks in Northern Europe and revisiting the scene of a "scorch the earth" area the size of the nation of Denmark, we were vividly reminded of the power of people to overcome indescribable hardship. We, too, shall overcome our tragedy because of this week's---




THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

*"A Nation's Greatness Resides Not In Her Material Resources
But In Her Will, Faith, Intelligence, And Moral Forces"*

Data as a Tool for Education Transformation

"It's not complex; it's just difficult" were the words of Superintendent Laura Schwalm at a recent statewide business, education & philanthropy summit on education. She was asked to speak because her district has made remarkable progress toward closing what she calls "the opportunity gap." Just for the Kids-California (www.jftk-ca.org) is a free website that helps identify districts who are succeeding in order to discover approaches that are successful. Garden Grove, which has comparable demographics, has been both an inspiration and a coach to the ongoing work at Fresno Unified.

From the Just For the Kids Website—What Works

ORGANIZATIONAL THEMES	I	I	CI P
CURRICULUM ACADEMIC C 	/ cu fc	/ sta su	Base aligne
STAFF SELECTION LEADERSHIP CAPACITY BUILDING 	sup leac	sup ba	Co kno instr
INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM PRACTICE ARRANGEMENTS 	P ii c	Us ba an	Use based
 	I stuc mo: sch	U	Mon regul: data
RECOGNITION INTERVENTIONS & ADJUSTMENTS 	R a lea	R adj	Recog based

