

National Education Service Company introduces **Shop NESCO**.

SHOP NESCO is the National Education Service Company's new on-line store which currently consists **Quick/Clicks**, **Best/Book/Buys** and **The Music Store**.

**Quick/Clicks** is a library of simple ready to use teaching aides, such as lesson plans, assessment forms, do-now's, charts, lists guides etc. All under \$10 and immediately available via pdf or hard copy by mail. Visit **Quick/Clicks @ [nescoed.com/Shop NESCO](http://nescoed.com/Shop NESCO)**.

**Best/Book/Buys** is the NESCO book store that sells only the best books covering the most important and relevant areas of education. Get the books you need from **Best/Book/Buys @ [nescoed.com/Best/Book/Buys](http://nescoed.com/Best/Book/Buys)**

**The Music Store** which will feature instrument and instrument supplies for all areas of music education will premier May 2016. Watch for the grand opening of **The Music Store**.

"The Instructor"

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## Point of View

Not What Teachers Were Hoping For

### The NYS Common CORE Task Force Recommendations

(based on article by Beth Dimino)



The NYS Task Force made 21 recommendations supposedly to ensure quality education in the State of New York. Here are the major recommendations made by the Task force:

1. Common Core to be overhauled and to adopt NYS education standards with input from local districts, educators and parents.
2. Establish a process by which NY Standards are periodically reviewed by educators and content experts.
3. Create and release new and improved curriculum resources.
4. Engage NY educators, not private corporations, to drive review and creation of State standards-aligned tests.
5. Minimize student test anxiety by reducing the number of student test

days and test questions.

A good start, but only a start. These recommendations are only suggestions not policy. There still remain a number of important issues not resolved.:

- The state is still obligated to Questar to create standardized tests until their contract with Pearson is concluded.
- Poor test scores can still result in schools being placed in which allows the state to take control of a school negate local contract and fire teachers.
- The four year moratorium on teacher evaluations and APPR is only temporary.
- The use of test scores as a major part of teacher evaluations is still a real possibility.
- Testing will continue for 3rd thru 8th grades.
- Testing of ELL students and students with disabilities still exist.

The Task Force and Governor Cuomo are clearly concerned about the growing Opt-Out Movement. We must continue to support this movement until significant and permanent changes are made to this flawed legislation.

Greetings! Happy Music in Our Schools Month! I hope that this finds you well and ready for the spring.

## SHOP N.E.S.C.O.

A new exciting educational resource for teachers and administrators available from [#nescoed.com](https://www.nescoed.com) Shop NESCO is a new feature of our website (nescoed.com) where you will find **Quick/Picks** and **Best/Book/Buys**.



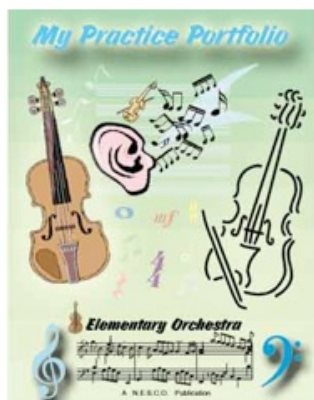
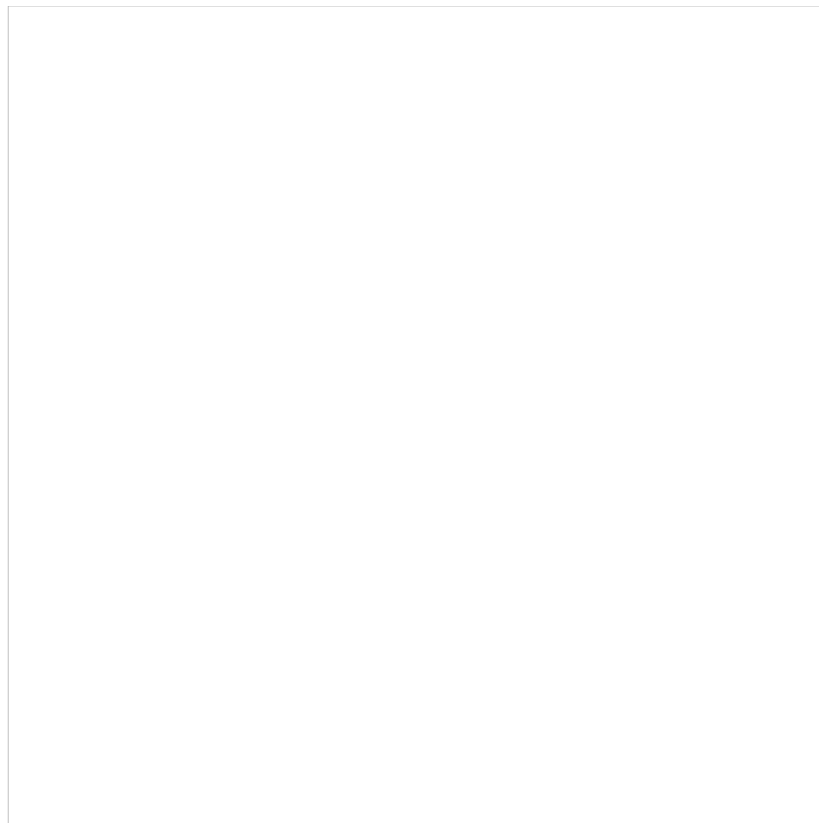
Reading may be the path to all knowledge but, when there is so much to read and personal time is so limited, educators need to know what's truly important to read. The NESCO editorial board researches and reviews thousands of education books. Only the best books covering the most important and relevant areas of education become BEST/BOOK/BUYS and are made available at the best prices through our website [#nescoed.com](http://nescoed.com) as part of

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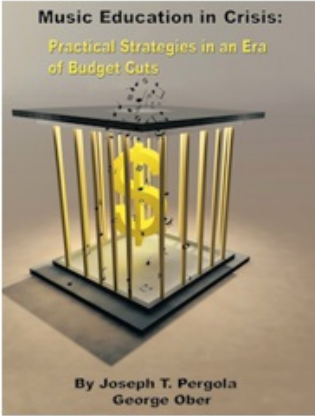
**N.E.S.C.O. PUBLICATIONS**



*The Orchestra version of My Practice Portfolio continues with Learning Activities that develop musicianship and meet the National Learning Standards.*



*Recruitment & Retention explains most common and persistent problems affecting recruitment and retention and proposes practical solutions for these problems.*



*This timely book examines the true causes for the funding crisis in education and purposes practical strategies for maintaining music education programs.*



*The Complete Band/Orchestra Information Kit is the resource you need to get organized, stay organized and keep in touch with parents and administrators.*

Book

[Active Learning and Engagement Strategies](#)

by Paula Rutherford

\$29.96

@nescoed.com (Book Store)

Article:

["Why Curiosity Enhances Learning"](#)

by Marianne Stenger

@edutopia.com

Website:

[19 Pencils](#)

<http://19pencils.com/>

Great website-Allow you to discover, manage and share student resources.

Also teaches how to program while sharing web-info.

Free

App:

Planbook

App Store

Designed by an educator for other educators, Planbook lets you plan lesson, attach handouts and weblinks to lessons and track lesson standards.

Video:

[Teach Teachers How to Create Magic](#)

by Christopher Emdin

What do rap shows, barbershop banter and Sunday services have in common? They all hold the secret magic to enthrall and teach at the same time — and it's a skill we often don't teach to educators.

This project was created to inspire teachers to use technology in engaging ways to help students develop higher level thinking skills.



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