



The Center for Greater Philadelphia at the
University of Pennsylvania

Operation Public Education

and the Education Policy & Issues Center



Study Circle

We are pleased to invite you to register for our fall Comprehensive Study Circle. School board members, teachers and their union leaders, principals, superintendents, curriculum directors and other administrators, parents and members of the business community will collaboratively learn about and discuss the major topics relevant to school improvement and accountability. Sessions will focus on professional development, student assessment, compensation and educator quality.

All eligible participants will receive **Act 48 and graduate credit** from the University of Pennsylvania's Graduate School of Education. Sessions are to be held every other week beginning in October, with two additional special meetings. Each meeting except the first will last from **4:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.**; location to be determined based on registrants. A tentative schedule follows:

- *Wednesday, October 17:* This initial meeting will include a special orientation to the program goals. The first **Educator Quality and Compensation** session will be led by **Columbus (Ohio) Education Association President John Grossman**. Columbus has a model teacher peer mentoring program as well as a system-wide concentration on student learning and classroom instruction. This meeting will begin at 4:30 and conclude by 8 p.m., following dinner.
- *Wednesday, October 31:* The second **Educator Quality and Compensation** session will be led by the **Coventry Public Schools** interim superintendent and union president. They will discuss the Rhode Island district's unique approach to systemic standards-based reform, including compensation based on teacher skills and knowledge and student achievement results.
- *Wednesday, November 14:* **Dr. June Rivers**, partner to noted statistician **William Sanders**, will lead the session on **Student Assessment** with a presentation of the **value-added** analysis system. This work provides an extraordinary means to examine the impact of teaching on student learning.
- *Wednesday, November 28:* **Adam Urbanski**, director of the **Teacher Union Reform Network and president of the Rochester Teachers Association – AFT**, will describe cutting-edge practice in peer mentoring programs and other teacher leadership examples across the country.
- *Wednesday, December 12:* A representative from the **National Board for Professional Teaching Standards** and a Board-certified teacher will discuss how the program enhances and recognizes excellent teaching. (Invited)
- *Two additional meetings in January TBD*