

# Fall

## Education's challenge: Quality teaching without lowering standards

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**-- From the Rand Corp. study "Beyond the Commission Reports"**

Who will teach the children? That is the challenging -- and perhaps unprecedented -- question ahead as the nation grinds for a new teacher shortage. As many as a million new public elementary and high school teachers will be required by 1990.

"Let's face it," says National Education Association President

Mary Hatwood Futrell, "we're approaching a real crisis in education over the next few years, one that we've never experienced before."

A new baby boomlet -- coupled with high numbers of teachers who are either retiring or leaving teaching for higher-paying jobs outside education -- has created

an unusually high demand for new teachers.

Demographers are also predicting an increased demand for teachers in adult education as workers return to school to learn the skills needed by America's increasingly competitive technological society.

The problem is compounded, Ms. Futrell adds, by a dramatic decline in the number of college students entering the teaching profession. The National Center for Educational Statistics says that the number of new teacher graduates declined from 317,000 in 1972 to 143,000 in 1982.

"We must come up with solutions to make teaching more attractive, particularly to the young," says Ms. Futrell. "If we don't, the education reform movement will hit a dead end. We'll never achieve excellence without adequate numbers of qualified teachers."

Finding a million new teachers over the next five years won't be easy.

Today, unlike previous periods of teacher shortage in the 1950s and 1960s, women and minorities have a wide choice of professions to enter. In the past, education was one of the few professional options open to talented women and minorities.

"Many beginning non-teaching positions pay more than the \$23,546 the average teacher with 15 years' experience earns," Ms. Futrell says.

States and school districts, she says, must take steps to attract top-quality young people into teaching.

As noted by a recent Rand Corp. study, "Beyond the Commission Reports: The Coming Crisis in Teaching," one of those steps should be to raise teacher salaries. The NEA recommends a beginning teacher salary of \$24,000 a year.

The Rand study points out that beginning salaries for teachers are lower than those in virtually all other professions that require a bachelor's degree -- even when adjusted to reflect a 12-month salary equivalent.

Teachers' salaries also reach the "ceiling" much more quickly than those of other professions, and that ceiling is lower than for other professional workers, the

Rand report notes.

Ms. Futrell also cautions against sacrificing quality as pressure builds to fill the growing numbers of teacher vacancies.

"I fear that some schools will respond to the shortage by lowering standards," says Ms. Futrell. "That's the wrong direction to go. As the education reform movement has so rightfully maintained, we need higher standards for new teachers -- not lower, and the NEA will insist that we get nothing but the best."

Some 38 states, the NEA president notes, have statutes or pending legislation that would allow individuals who haven't been trained as teachers to teach.

## Fashion

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ment some outfits, Miss Millner says.

The oversized look will also be popular with women, says Kerry Mowery, executive vice president of Mother and Daughter Stores.

Big tops paired with stirrup pants or tight-legged jeans will give this look.

Mowery says that items which have sold well in his store are sweatshirts and jogging suits of fleece and oversized sweaters that can be worn alone or with pants.

Randy Cockerham, vice president of G'Anzie Inc., agrees that sweaters will be big fashion news again this fall.

Sweaters will be big and bulky, he says.

The fall look will also feature a carryover from the summer. Sweaters with a deep V in the front and the back will be teamed with tank shirts, Cockerham says.

Stirrup pants will also be fashionable this fall because they are comfortable and wear well, he says.

Big, oversized shirts, also seen frequently this summer, will show up again in the fall, Cockerham says.

Jeans never go out of style, and this year is no exception.

The day of plain jeans is gone, and jeans are being jazzed up with floral designs.

"The floral print pattern makes them attractive and takes away from the regular jean look," Cockerham says. "An oversized sweater with print jeans will give you a unique fashion look."

The safari look is another style that is going to be seen a lot this

fall, says Lorie Martin, manager of D. A. Kelly's at Hanes Mall. The safari look will come in olive greens, reds and blacks.

One change that Miss Martin has noticed from last fall is the colors.

"It seems like this year, the colors are a lot bolder," she says. "There are a lot more brighter colors."

Jean skirts that are straight and come to below the knees are another hot fall fashion find.

"The straight, long look is going like hot cakes," Miss Martin says. "Some people like to pair them (long, straight skirts) with oversize sweaters."

Miss Martin says that she thinks silk blouses will also be a hit this fall.

Children's clothes in many respects will take their cue from the grown-up fashions.

The oversize look of stirrup pants and big sweaters will also be popular with girls, Mowery says.

Big sweaters and skirts will also be a favorite of back-to-school girls.

Jeans will still be popular for both boys and girls.

The Don Johnson of "Miami Vice" look of blazer and tank top will be popular this fall for men, says Dawn Patrick, sales associate of Chess King, located in Hanes Mall.

Bright colors will also be characteristic of men's fall clothing, she says.

Suspenders will also be popular, as will cardigan sweaters and two-toned jeans.

Many men will take on the coming of fall dressed in the

European look.

The European look consists of clothes that are very loose and baggy in their fit, says Mike Chandler, area manager of The Casual Male.

Chandler says that the fit is one of the main style changes in men's clothing this year.

The fit is characteristic of the '50s, he says.

The colors this fall will be blues, purples and yellows, he says.

The ever-popular Levi jeans are still in, Chandler says.

But no fall outfit would be complete without the perfect pair of shoes.

Shoes for women this season will be either flats or high heels, Mrs. Jamison says.

Flat shoes with pointed toes will complement many fall outfits, Miss Millner says.

Matt Johnson, assistant manager at Kinney's Shoes, says that the Madonna look will be prominent in shoes for both girls and women.

This look consists of low-heeled lace-up boots.

Johnson says that another style boot that will be popular with women will be a boot similar to the one worn in the 1890s. This boot laces up and has high heels and pointed toes.

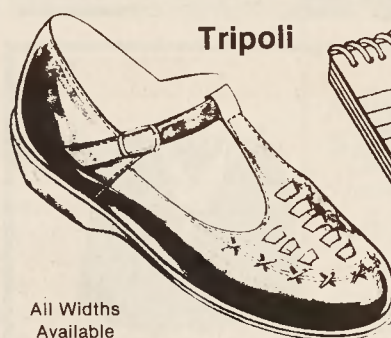
Many of the women's traditional-style shoes will be back this year. Variations on the classic pump will continue.

For men and boys, a shoe similar to the boat shoe will be popular. Tennis shoes will be another favorite of boys.

Men's shoes, whatever the style, will be casual and versatile, Johnson says.

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