



Unravelling the New World Order

*An Exposé of How Government, Religious, and Financial Insiders
Are Deciding Your Future*

July 2010

There is a Stealth Revolution Going on In America's Education System

By UNWO Editors

The Heritage Foundation's "Morning Bell" column reported on a major "education speech" that President Obama delivered on July 29, attempting to garner support for his "Race to the Top" grant program and his push for national education standards and tests. The President's remarks came shortly after a speech delivered by Education Secretary Arne Duncan on July 27 at the National Press Club. During that address, Duncan characterized the Administration's policies as part of a 'quiet revolution.'"

Duncan got it right on both points: *quiet* and *revolution*. Since Obama took office, he has quietly been reworking the country's education system; and the tactics he and his officials at the DOE are employing can only be characterized as revolutionary. In this, as in many other areas of federal governance, Obama has done an end-run around Congress. The Department of Education has had its funding doubled, thanks to the so-called "stimulus" money, and Obama has had little need to negotiate with Congress on his education agenda. The DOE is now using that windfall of funding to stage a significant overhaul of local schools, *dangling grant money before cash-strapped states—conditional, of course on their adopting key pieces of the Obama education agenda.*

Implementation of Obama/DOE policies has been happening without public consideration, signaling the end of any accountability on the part of an increasingly powerful federal education bureaucracy and local education. In simpler words, Obama has kicked us out of the loop where the education of our children is concerned.

The push for national education standards and tests began last year when the National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers began writing standards for what all U.S. students should learn in school. The Obama regime has been backing the effort with federal dollars, pressing his "Race to the Top" agenda upon starved states by making it clear he will make Title I funding (the largest federal education program at \$14.5 billion) contingent on acceptance of these standards. Some states have signed onto the standards to position themselves for federal grants, without allowing their state residents any opportunity to weigh in on significant changes that will be coming to their schools.

In the push for national standards, Secretary Duncan has referred to state standards as "50 different goal posts"—a comment that reveals greater concern for *uniformity* than with excellence—more emphasis on *standardization* than quality. Common sense reminds us that when "national standards" are imposed by law, the "standard" will slide to the middle of the spectrum, generating national standard of mediocrity.

The Obama regime's plan will dramatically change our nation's education system without a single vote in Congress, and without the American people having any opportunity to debate the issue.

State leaders in Texas, Virginia, Minnesota, and Indiana have expressed concerns about losing state autonomy over quality of education in their states. Education leaders in all other states should be using all available means to warn parents that educational change accomplished by stealth and by eliminating congressional input obviously has a lot to hide. As was noted already in this issue, it doesn't take much imagination to envision the "programming" our youth will be getting under the auspices of the radical-left administration.