



Teacher Quality and Improvement

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The Teacher Quality and Improvement e-newsletter is a free publication from CCSSO focusing on efforts at the state and district level to strengthen teacher quality and school leadership, particularly in high-poverty, low-performing schools. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide links to recent reports, studies, legislative action, and news articles related to teacher quality and improvement efforts.

To submit a news item relevant to teacher quality and improvement at the state or district level, provide feedback, or subscribe/unsubscribe, contact Cindy Prince at cindyp@ccsso.org. If you are having problems reading this file, the PDF version of this newsletter is available at <http://www.ccsso.org/content/pdfs/TQINewsletter23August06pdf>. All previous issues are posted on the CCSSO website at http://www.ccsso.org/whats_new/newsletters/teacher_quality_and_improvement/index.cfm.

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SOME OF THE TOP STORIES

USDE releases peer review feedback on states' revised highly qualified teacher plans and teacher equity plans

Nine states recognized for producing complete plans that addressed all required components; 39 states/jurisdictions asked to make some revisions by Sept. 29; 4 asked to resubmit new plans

- U.S. Department of Education. ["Improving Teacher Quality state grants: HQT revised state plans."](#) (Revised state plans for highly qualified teachers and reviewer comments)
- U.S. Department of Education. ["U.S. Department of Education releases results of state plans for highly qualified teachers in every classroom."](#) Press release, August 16, 2006.
- Associated Press. ["States fall short on teacher quality."](#) *New York Times*, August 16, 2006.

Also:

- Feller, B. ["States fall short on teacher quality."](#) *Los Angeles Times/Associated Press*, August 16, 2006.
- Feller, B. ["States fall short on teacher quality."](#) *Forbes.com/Associated Press*, August 16, 2006.
- Feller, B. ["Teacher quality mandate remains big challenge for states."](#) *The Oregonian/Associated Press*, August 16, 2006.
- Feller, B. ["States fall short on teacher quality."](#) *Boston Globe/Associated Press*, August 16, 2006.

- Associated Press. [“Teacher quality mandate remains big challenge for states,”](#) *USA Today*, August 17, 2006.
- Feller, B. [“‘No Child’ guidelines on teachers are still a problem for many states,”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer/Associated Press*, August 17, 2006.
- Keller, B. [“Most states pass federal review on highly qualified teachers,”](#) *Education Week*, August 17, 2006.

(Note: Additional news articles on individual states can be found under “State and local progress toward the goal that all teachers will be highly qualified”)

Education Trust’s analysis of state teacher equity plans underscores need to strengthen teacher data systems

- [Missing the Mark: An Education Trust Analysis of Teacher-Equity Plans](#)
Peske, H., Crawford, C., & Pick, B., The Education Trust, August 2006, 7 pp.
- [Press release](#)
- Feller, B. [“Education quality for minorities faulted,”](#) *Washington Post/Associated Press*, August 10, 2006.

Also:

- Feller, B. [“Reports faults state educators,”](#) *San Francisco Chronicle/Associated Press*, August 10, 2006.
- Feller, B. [“Report: States shirking order to distribute qualified teachers fairly,”](#) *San Diego Union-Tribune/Associated Press*, August 10, 2006.
- Feller, B. [“Education quality for minorities faulted,”](#) *San Francisco Chronicle/Associated Press*, August 10, 2006.
- Feller, B. [“Report faults state educators,”](#) *The San Luis Obispo (CA) Tribune/Associated Press*, August 10, 2006.
- Associated Press. [“Report: States shirking order to distribute qualified teachers,”](#) *USA Today*, August 10, 2006.
- Associated Press. [“Report: States shirking order to distribute qualified teachers fairly,”](#) *KVIA News (El Paso, TX)*, August 10, 2006.
- Associated Press. [“States shirking order to distribute qualified teachers,”](#) *CNN.com*, August 11, 2006.
- Feller, B. [“Are top teachers placed fairly?”](#) *Detroit News*, August 11, 2006.
- Associated Press. [“Few states meet school equity rules,”](#) *Los Angeles Times*, August 11, 2006.
- Feller, B. [“Some children left behind,”](#) *The (Raleigh, NC) News & Observer/Associated Press*, August 11, 2006.
- Associated Press. [“Study: States ignoring teacher inequities,”](#) *Boston Globe*, August 11, 2006.
- Vu, P. [“Report: States fail in devising teacher equity plans,”](#) *Stateline.org*, August 10, 2006.

- United Press International. [“Poor and minorities get worst teachers,” UPI.com](#), August 11, 2006.
- King, L. [“Teacher quality at issue,” Cincinnati Enquirer/Gannett](#), August 11, 2006.
- Cincinnati Enquirer editorial staff. [“OPINION: No excuse in leaving kids behind,” Cincinnati Enquirer](#), August 13, 2006.

(Note: Additional news articles on individual states can be found under “State and local progress toward the goal that all teachers will be highly qualified”)

Charlotte-Mecklenburg eliminates recruitment bonuses for teachers who transfer to high-poverty schools

- Doss Helms, A., & Smolowitz, P. [“CMS board OKs raises for teachers,” Charlotte Observer](#), August 23, 2006.

South Carolina’s National Board Certified Teachers convene to discuss strategies likely to attract and retain accomplished teachers in hard-to-staff schools

- Adcox, S. [“Teachers discuss ways to help high-need schools,” The \(Myrtle Beach, SC\) Sun News/Associated Press](#), August 5, 2006.

Also:

- Smith, L. [“Teachers discuss ways to help high-need schools,” WIS News 10 \(Columbia, SC\)/ Associated Press](#), August 5, 2006.
- Adcox, S. [“Top teachers meet, try to boost recruitment,” GoUpstate.com \(Spartanburg, SC\)/Associated Press](#), August 6, 2006.
- Robinson, B. [“Teachers address retention strategies,” The State \(Columbia, SC\)](#), August 6, 2006.

[Incentive ideas](#)

Also:

- Robinson, B. [“Incentives proposed to lure top teachers to poor S.C. schools,” The Island Packet \(Bluffton, SC\)/The State \(Columbia, SC\)](#), August 6, 2006.

University of Tennessee-Battelle partnership offers \$10,000 bonuses to math and science teachers who agree to work for three years in rural East Tennessee schools

- Mansfield, D. [“‘Signing bonus’ for math, science teachers,” Knoxville \(TN\) News Sentinel/Associated Press](#), August 11, 2006.

Also:

- Mansfield, D. [“‘Signing bonus’ attracts teachers,” Knoxville \(TN\) News Sentinel/Associated Press](#), August 12, 2006.
- Jackson Sun staff. [“UT-Battelle’s signing bonuses help everyone,” The Jackson \(TN\) Sun](#), August 13, 2006.

All Denver teachers to receive training to help them become more effective teachers of English language learners

- Sherry, A. [“Encouraging words,”](#) *Denver Post*, August 10, 2006.

IN THE NEWS

Teacher preparation, higher ed

- Johnsen, B. [“Program trains reading specialists,”](#) *Winona (MN) Daily News*, July 30, 2006.
- Mathews, J. [“OPINION: Learning from the masters,”](#) *Washington Post*, August 6, 2006, W33.
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- Mallory, A. [“W.Va. teaching schools don’t make the grade,”](#) *The Charleston (WV) Gazette*, August 13, 2006.
- *Charleston Daily Mail* editorial staff. [“OPINION: Colleges should comply or else,”](#) *Charleston (WV) Daily Mail*, August 14, 2006.
- *Intelligencer & Wheeling News-Register* editorial staff. [“OPINION: Resolve teacher education dispute,”](#) *The Intelligencer & Wheeling (WV) News-Register*, August 15, 2006.
- *Dayton Business Journal* staff. [“Clark County center nabs \\$300K to train teachers,”](#) *Dayton (OH) Business Journal*, August 17, 2006.

Teacher certification and licensure

- Banchemo, S. [“Illinois lowers required score on a key exam for teachers,”](#) *Chicago Tribune*, August 11, 2006.
- Associated Press. [“State board votes to lower test requirement for Illinois teachers,”](#) *WLS-TV/DT News (Chicago)*, August 11, 2006.
- Associated Press. [“State board to lower teacher score requirement,”](#) *WSJV News (South Bend, IN)*, August 11, 2006.
- Haynes, V.D. [“D.C. has all its teachers, but some lack certificates,”](#) *Washington Post*, August 23, 2006, A01.

Alternative routes to teaching

- Buffett, P. [“Troops to Teachers: Numbers, success stories continue to rise,”](#) *Fort Monroe (VA) Casemate*, July 21, 2006.
- Jacobs, J. [“Teachers tapped to fill shortages,”](#) *The Macon (GA) Telegraph*, August 4, 2006.
- Commings, J. [“New grads, career switchers take reins,”](#) *Arizona Daily Star*, August 7, 2006.
- Ong, B. [“Uncle Sam wants teachers,”](#) *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, August 8, 2006.
- Voorhis, D. [“Transition to Teaching program at WSU grows,”](#) *The Wichita (KS) Eagle*, August 9, 2006.

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- Beacon News staff. [“Valley briefing: AU educators publish article.”](#) *The (Aurora, IL) Beacon News*, August 13, 2006. {scroll down}
- WPTY 24 News staff. [“State seeks new ‘Teach Tennessee’ candidates.”](#) *WPTY 24 News (Memphis)*, August 14, 2006.
- Rogersville Review staff. [“State seeks new Teach Tennessee candidates.”](#) *The Rogersville (TN) Review*, August 15, 2006.
- Bailey, P., Fantz, A., Pinzur, M., & Sampson, H. [“Ex-troops on front line as teachers.”](#) *Miami Herald*, August 15, 2006.

Teacher supply and demand

- Kansas City InfoZine staff. [“KU school of education lends help in uphill battle against teacher shortage.”](#) *Kansas City InfoZine*, August 12, 2006.
- Associated Press. [“Nearly 2,000 teacher jobs unfilled statewide.”](#) *The (Bradenton, FL) Herald*, August 15, 2006.
- Associated Press. [“2,000 teacher jobs unfilled statewide.”](#) *Florida Today (Melbourne, FL)*, August 15, 2006.
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- King, L. [“Qualified teachers are in short supply.”](#) *Seattle Times/Gannett*, August 22, 2006.

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- Leal Unmuth, K. [“Districts rush to fill teaching vacancies.”](#) *Dallas Morning News*, August 8, 2006.
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- Kossan, P. [“Ranks of male teachers, principals shrinking.”](#) *Arizona Republic*, August 21, 2006.
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Principal recruitment, hiring, and training

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 - Chat Wrap-Up: [“Finding and keeping good principals.”](#) *Education Week*, August 9, 2006.
- Helms, A.D. [“Principals told to fix schools fast, or quit.”](#) *Charlotte Observer*, August 5, 2006.
- Belden, D. [“Mid-career principals will hit the books, too.”](#) *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, August 11, 2006.
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Teacher mentoring, induction, support, coaching

- Breitenstein, D. [“Program helps build teachers’ relationships.”](#) *The (Fort Lauderdale, FL) News-Press*, August 4, 2006.
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Teacher evaluation

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- Associated Press. [“Evaluation policy focuses on new, problem teachers.”](#) *Charleston (WV) Daily Mail*, August 11, 2006.
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Professional development

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- Hyra, J. [“Workshop teaches teachers about wind energy.”](#) *Grand Forks (ND) Herald/Jamestown (ND) Sun*, August 2, 2006.
- Tintocalis, A. [“Professional math training + teachers=higher student achievement.”](#) *KPBS News (San Diego)*, August 7, 2006.
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- Kakesako, G. [“Sea of knowledge.”](#) *Honolulu Star-Bulletin*, August 8, 2006.

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- Leff, S. [“Princeton seminar helps to reinvigorate educator,”](#) *The Tri-Town News (Howell, NJ)*, August 17, 2006.
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- Rocchio, C. [“Math workshops add depth to curriculum,”](#) *Daily News Tribune (Waltham, MA)*, August 18, 2006.
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☆ **To teach history and culture**

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- Scott, C. [“Teaching the teachers,”](#) *The Daily Press (Hampton Roads, VA)*, August 7, 2006.
- Griswold, J. [“Museum educates teachers,”](#) *The Oklahoman*, August 8, 2006.
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☆ **To teach linguistically and culturally diverse students**

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- Gyek, J. [“Teaching the teachers.”](#) *The (Yuma, AZ) Sun*, August 16, 2006.

☆ **To use technology**

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☆ **Classroom management**

- Barry, J. [“This school for teachers includes blocking punches.”](#) *Chicago Tribune/St. Petersburg (FL) Times*, August 10, 2006.

Teacher compensation, incentives

- Honawar, V. [“School districts devising new ways to offer teachers affordable housing.”](#) *Education Week*, August 9, 2006.

☆ **Florida**

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☆ **Illinois**

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- Chase, J. [“Topinka unveils education plan.”](#) *Chicago Tribune*, August 21, 2006.

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☆ **Maryland**

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☆ **Michigan**

- Murray, D., & Essenburg, K. [“Incentives show shift in teacher contracts.”](#) *The Grand Rapids (MI) Press*, August 9, 2006.

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- Heavin, J. [“Housing perk gaining favor with teachers.”](#) *Columbia (MO) Daily Tribune*, August 12, 2006.

☆ **North Carolina**

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☆ **South Carolina**

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☆ **Texas**

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Teacher turnover, mobility

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- Grant, K. [“Recruit and retain.”](#) *KELOLAND TV (Sioux Falls, SD)*, August 9, 2006.

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State and district progress toward the goal that all teachers will be highly qualified

A) *Additional news articles, by state, on USDE’s peer review of states’ revised highly qualified teacher plans and teacher equity plans*

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B) *Additional news articles, by state, on The Education Trust's analysis of state teacher equity plans*

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C) *Other news articles on state and district progress toward the goal that all teachers will be highly qualified*

☆ **Indiana**

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