



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/TQINewsletter7Aug06.pdf>. 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

Charlotte-Mecklenburg, NC school board vows to support superintendent if involuntary teacher transfers to low-performing schools become necessary

At present, superintendent only expects to reassign some principals during 2006-07

- Doss Helms, A., & Smolowitz, P. ["Teacher transfers win board support."](#) *Charlotte Observer*, July 30, 2006.
- *Charlotte Observer* editorial staff. ["OPINION: Teacher transfers."](#) *Charlotte Observer*, August 1, 2006.
- Doss Helms, A. ["Gorman: Some principals likely to be reassigned."](#) *Charlotte Observer*, August 3, 2006.

Oklahoma awards \$10,000+ bonuses to math and science teachers who kept promise to remain in state for five years

- *KOCO News* staff. ["Incentive nets teachers more than \\$10,000."](#) *KOCO News (Oklahoma City)*, July 27, 2006.
- Simpson, S. ["35 teachers cash in on bonus."](#) *The Oklahoman*, July 28, 2006.
- Kurys, A. ["New incentive for Oklahoma science and math teachers."](#) *KTEN News (Denison, TX)*, July 28, 2006.

- *Norman Transcript* editorial staff. [“OPINION: Keeping teachers in the state,”](#) *The Norman (OK) Transcript*, July 28, 2006.
- *Enid News and Eagle* staff and wire reports. [“2 local teachers reaping reward for their service,”](#) *The Enid (OK) News and Eagle*, July 29, 2006.

Supplemental pay program in Virginia aims to reduce salary disparities among school districts, help less-affluent communities compete with wealthier areas for teachers

- Trice, C. [“Rural areas get aid to keep teachers,”](#) *The Richmond (VA) Times-Dispatch*, July 24, 2006.
- Associated Press. [“Expanded teacher pay keeps rural educators in place,”](#) *The Daily Press (Hampton Roads, VA)*, July 30, 2006.
- Associated Press. [“Expanded pay keeps teachers in place,”](#) *Culpeper (VA) Star Exponent*, July 31, 2006.

At new best-practices center, Indiana U. faculty will collaborate with local teachers to improve teaching and learning; initial help will be targeted to high-need urban schools

- Indiana University. [“New IU center will share best practices with Indiana schools, help students prepare for college.”](#) Press release, July 31, 2006.
- *Indianapolis Star* staff. [“IU to assist Indy, Gary teachers,”](#) *Indianapolis Star*, July 31, 2006.
- Associated Press. [“IU launches education program to help school teachers,”](#) *The (Fort Wayne, IN) News-Sentinel*, July 31, 2006.
- Olsen, L. [“Indiana University offers new initiative to prepare Indiana students,”](#) *WISH-TV (Indianapolis)*, August 1, 2006.
- Gammill, A. [“IU working to better its future students,”](#) *Indianapolis Star*, August 1, 2006.

FEDERAL UPDATE

Virginia considers ways to strengthen teacher requirements – particularly for special ed teachers – in response to USDE charge that standards are lax

- Associated Press. [“VA considers tougher standards for teachers,”](#) *WSLS News (Roanoke, VA)*, July 26, 2006.
- Fernandes, D. [“Va. to push for tougher standards for teachers,”](#) *The Virginian-Pilot (Hampton Roads, VA)*, July 26, 2006.
- Chen Sampson, Z. [“State considers measures to improve teacher qualifications,”](#) *The Daily Press (Hampton Roads, VA)/Associated Press*, July 26, 2006.

Also:

- Chen Sampson, Z. [“Tougher standards for teachers mulled,”](#) *Washington Times/Associated Press*, July 28, 2006.
- *Daily Press* staff and wire reports. [“Va. at odds over teacher standards,”](#) *The Daily Press (Hampton Roads, VA)*, July 28, 2006.

- Davis, D. [“Area educators react to proposal to raise standards for Va. teachers.”](#) *The Winchester (VA) Star*, July 31, 2006.

Ten programs receive federal Indian Education Professional Development grants to recruit and train Native American teachers and administrators

- U.S. Department of Education. [“Professional development programs in seven states awarded \\$3,793,537 to improve education for Indian students.”](#) Press release, August 3, 2006.
- *Billings Gazette* staff. [“MSU-B pulls in grants for Indian education.”](#) *Billings (MT) Gazette*, August 4, 2006.
- *Duluth News Tribune* staff. [“College of St. Scholastica gets federal Indian teachers grant.”](#) *Duluth (MN) News Tribune*, August 4, 2006.

Thirty-one programs receive federal Transition to Teaching grants to prepare alternative route teacher candidates for high-need schools and districts

- U.S. Department of Education. [“U.S. Department of Education awards \\$11.8 million for 31 grants to help recruit, train and retain new teachers.”](#) Press release, August 4, 2006.
- *KWTX News* staff. [“A&M receives grant to recruit, train, retain teachers.”](#) *KWTX News (Waco, TX)*, August 3, 2006.

U.S. Department of Education posts state highly qualified teacher plans on USDE website

- U.S. Department of Education. [“Improving Teacher Quality state grants: Highly qualified teachers revised state plans.”](#)

IN THE NEWS

Teacher preparation, higher ed

- Gonzalez Kotala, Z. [“UCF producing professors to train much-needed special education teachers.”](#) *University of Central Florida News & Information*, July 21, 2006.
- University of Colorado at Boulder. [“CU-Boulder program attracts science majors to teaching careers.”](#) News release, July 27, 2006.
- *News 14 Carolina* staff. [“ECU helping North Carolina teacher shortage.”](#) *News 14 Carolina (Raleigh, NC)*, August 1, 2006.
- Gonzalez Kotala, Z. [“UCF program prepares teachers’ assistants to lead their own classrooms.”](#) *University of Central Florida News & Information*, August 2, 2006.

Alternative routes to teaching

- McEwen, H. [“Language teachers prepped.”](#) *Cincinnati Enquirer*, July 24, 2006.
- Pickett, S. [“New DISD teachers heading to the classroom.”](#) *CBS 11 News (Dallas/Fort Worth)*, July 25, 2006.
- Fisher, M. [“Grant will allow more to become teachers.”](#) *Dayton (OH) Daily News*, August 2, 2006.

- Hubbard, J. [“Schools to lean on sub teachers early.”](#) *The Macon (GA) Telegraph*, August 3, 2006.

Teacher supply and demand

- Kalmes, J. [“Education job market tough but not impossible.”](#) *Toledo (OH) Free Press*, July 26, 2006.
- Ranney, D. [“Kansas schools low on teachers.”](#) *The Lawrence (KS) Journal-World*, July 27, 2006.

Teacher recruitment, hiring

- Portteus, D. [“Need for male elementary teachers grows.”](#) *Toledo (OH) Free Press*, July 26, 2006.
- Hirth, D. [“Schools seek black male teachers.”](#) *Tallahassee Democrat*, July 30, 2006.
- Tallahassee Democrat editorial staff. [“OPINION: Black male teachers.”](#) *Tallahassee Democrat*, August 2, 2006.
- Stepp, D. [“Schools still in hiring mode.”](#) *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, July 30, 2006.
- Naylor, E. [“Charlotte has banner year for teacher recruiting.”](#) *The (Charlotte Harbor, FL) Sun-Herald*, August 1, 2006.
- Uyeno, K. [“New teachers arrive in Hawaii classrooms.”](#) *KHNL 8 News (Honolulu)*, August 3, 2006.
- Ayres, K. [“Hispanic teachers still a rare find.”](#) *Dallas Morning News*, August 3, 2006.
- Winchester, D. [“New teachers ready to find their seats.”](#) *St. Petersburg Times*, August 7, 2006.

Rehiring retired teachers

- Associated Press. [“School officials try to recruit retired teachers.”](#) *KUTV News (Salt Lake City)*, July 25, 2006.

Teacher assignment and distribution

- Uyeno, K. [“Assignment confusion for recruited teacher.”](#) *KHNL 8 News (Honolulu)*, August 3, 2006.

Teacher turnover, mobility

- Hannah-Jones, N. [“Durham learns why teachers quit.”](#) *The (Raleigh, NC) News & Observer*, July 27, 2006.

Teacher retention

- Coleman, E. [“Pay raises not enough for teacher retention, some say.”](#) *WRAL News (Raleigh-Durham, NC)*, July 4, 2006.
- Associated Press. [“DeSoto County officials say teacher turnover rate is down.”](#) *The (Gulfport, MS) Sun Herald*, July 21, 2006.
- Covington, J. [“DeSoto teacher turnover down to 8.6%.”](#) *Memphis Commercial Appeal*, July 21, 2006.
- Associated Press. [“Teacher retention takes focus.”](#) *Billings (MT) Gazette*, July 22, 2006.

- Johnston, J., & Jenkins, N. [“County, district join forces to stop math, science teacher drain.”](#) *The Boca Raton (FL) News*, July 23, 2006.

Principal recruitment, hiring, and training

- Foster, J. [“School leaders uncover new skills.”](#) *The (Myrtle Beach, SC) Sun News*, July 20, 2006.
- Rodriguez, N. [“Building better leaders.”](#) *The Louisville (KY) Courier-Journal*, July 28, 2006.

Also:

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- Silberman, T. [“After training, 17 principals face Manning.”](#) *The (Raleigh, NC) News & Observer*, August 5, 2006.

Teacher mentoring, induction, support, coaching

- Matsuoka, C. [“Keeping teachers a challenge.”](#) *Kauai Garden Island News*, July 25, 2006.
- Kelley, B. [“New teacher induction institute.”](#) *WTOC News (Savannah, GA)*, July 31, 2006.
- Nix, M. [“Reaching out to teachers.”](#) *The (Fredericksburg, VA) Free Lance-Star*, August 1, 2006.
- Miller, G. [“New Lee teachers anxious but ready.”](#) *The Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal (Tupelo, MS)*, August 2, 2006.
- Rogers, S. [“Teaching teachers.”](#) *Bastrop (LA) Daily Enterprise*, August 3, 2006.

Professional development

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- Newcomb, P. [“Who says teachers take summer off?”](#) *The Huntsville (AL) Times*, August 3, 2006.

☆ **To teach math and science**

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- Pressley, L. [“K-5 teachers receive some science training.”](#) *Charlotte Observer*, July 19, 2006.
- Quiñones, E. [“Institute fosters excitement about science for teachers.”](#) *News@Princeton/Princeton University*, July 20, 2006.
- Jordan, N. [“Science teachers hone classroom skills.”](#) *Rocky Mount Telegram (Rocky Mount, NC)*, July 21, 2006.
- Borja, R. [“Real-world experiences.”](#) *Education Week*, July 26, 2006.
- Northrop Grumman Corporation. [“Northrop Grumman weightless teacher program floats through Huntsville.”](#) Press release, July 28, 2006.
- Newcomb, P. [“Zero-G ride turns teachers into kids.”](#) *The Huntsville (AL) Times*, July 30, 2006.
- Ascione, L. [“NASA program creates teacher corps.”](#) *eSchool News*, August 1, 2006.
- KPVI News staff. [“Physics teachers get hands-on lessons.”](#) *KPVI/NBC News (Pocatello, ID)*, August 1, 2006.
- Thompson, L. [“Why do teens fail math? ‘It ain’t the kids.’”](#) *Seattle Times*, August 2, 2006.

☆ **To teach history and social studies**

- Mallory, A. [“State teachers getting a lesson on civics classes.”](#) *The Charleston (WV) Gazette*, July 24, 2006.
- Kovac, A. [“Program turns teachers into students of history.”](#) *The Roanoke (VA) Times*, July 25, 2006.
- Kennedy Manzo, K. [“Experience of Ellis Island expected to enrich curriculum.”](#) *Education Week*, July 26, 2006.

☆ **To teach reading**

- Lewis, K. [“Teaching the teacher.”](#) *Naples (FL) Daily News*, July 25, 2006.

☆ **To use technology**

- Brumfield, R. [“Teacher development key to tech success.”](#) *eSchool News*, July 21, 2006.
- *Herald-Dispatch* staff. [“Technology tools help teachers improve student achievement.”](#) *The (Huntington, WV) Herald-Dispatch*, July 30, 2006.

☆ **To teach linguistically and culturally diverse learners**

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- Becker, A. [“Change in education: As Latino students near a majority in public schools, questions arise on how California will address shift.”](#) *Contra Costa Times (Walnut Creek, CA)*, July 24, 2006.
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Teacher and principal compensation, incentives

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- *Arizona Daily Star* staff. [“Salaries down for teachers, up for superintendents.”](#) *Arizona Daily Star/Bloomberg News*, July 26, 2006.

☆ **Arizona**

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☆ **Colorado**

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☆ **Nevada**

- Associated Press. [“Plan to help Vegas teachers buy homes.”](#) *North Lake Tahoe Bonanza (Incline Village, NV)*, July 26, 2006.

☆ **Texas**

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☆ **Washington**

- Young, B. [“New teacher loan program: Why only a few qualify.”](#) *Seattle Times*, August 3, 2006.

Working conditions

☆ **School safety, discipline**

- Ramirez, E. [“Why teach here? The reasons vary.”](#) *St. Petersburg Times*, July 27, 2006.
- Hardy, D., & Kummer, F. [“Mixed report on school violence.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, July 27, 2006.

☆ **Resources, facilities**

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Teacher tenure, dismissal

- Kremen, M. "[Tenure helps good teachers and shelters the bad ones.](#)" *The (Hackensack, NJ) Record*, July 19, 2006.

Teachers of hard-to-fill subjects and specializations

☆ **Math and science**

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- Johnson, Z. "[Filling math, science jobs hard to do.](#)" *The (Stockton, CA) Record*, July 25, 2006.
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☆ **Special education**

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International teachers

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

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☆ Hawaii

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☆ Indiana

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☆ Tennessee

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The Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) is a nonpartisan, nationwide, nonprofit organization of public officials who head departments of elementary and secondary education in the states, the District of Columbia, the Department of Defense Education Activity, and five U.S. extra-state jurisdictions. CCSSO provides leadership, advocacy, and technical assistance on the major educational issues. The Council seeks member consensus on major educational issues and expresses their views to civic and professional organizations, federal agencies, Congress, and the public.

Our mission statement: The Council of Chief State School Officers, through Leadership, Advocacy, and Service, assists chief state school officers and their organizations in achieving the vision of an American education system that enables all children to succeed in school, work, and life.

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