



Teacher Quality and Improvement

e-Newsletter of the CCSSO Teacher Quality Network

May 5, 2004, Vol. 1, No. 5

The Teacher Quality and Improvement e-newsletter is a free, bi-weekly 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/TQINewsletter05May04.pdf>. The PDF version of the previous issue is available at <http://www.ccsso.org/content/pdfs/TQINewsletter08Apr04.pdf>.

CCSSO ACADEMIES ON TEACHER ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS, MENTORING & INDUCTION

CCSSO's Interstate New Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium (INTASC) will hold two Academies this summer during the week of July 19-23, 2004:

- *Building Effective Standards-Based Teacher Preparation Assessment Systems* will help state department personnel and teacher educators improve and refine their teacher candidate assessment systems; and
- *Building Effective Standards-Based Beginning Teacher Mentoring and Induction Programs* will help K-12 districts, coaches, and state department personnel develop quality induction and mentoring programs for beginning teachers.

To learn more about this summer's Academies visit <http://www.ccsso.org/INTASCacademies> or contact David Paradise at (202) 336-7068, davidp@ccsso.org.

ED WEEK'S TALKBACK LIVE TRANSCRIPTS AVAILABLE ONLINE

Transcripts from weekly Talkback Live sessions hosted by Education Week are now available online. Of special interest are four recent sessions dealing with teacher quality:

- [Finding and Keeping Qualified Teachers: The HR Perspective](#) (4/22/04)
- [Improving Working Conditions for Teachers](#) (4/14/04)
- [Teacher Pay for Performance](#) (3/24/04)
- [A Highly Qualified Teacher for Every Classroom: Teacher Recruitment and Retention](#) (12/09/03)

FEDERAL UPDATE

Wanted Immediately: Reviewers for 2004 Transition to Teaching Grant Competition

The purpose of the Transition to Teaching program is “to recruit and retain highly qualified mid-career professionals (including paraprofessionals) and recent college graduates as teachers in high-need schools and encourage the development and expansion of alternative routes through which these individuals receive certification.” The deadline to be considered as a peer reviewer is **May 7, 2004**. The deadline for [grant applications](#) is **June 14, 2004**. For more information about serving as a peer reviewer, contact Amy Wooten at the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Innovation and Improvement, Teacher Quality Programs: amy.wooten@ed.gov, (202) 260-0464.

USDE announces new Teacher-to-Teacher Initiative

- U.S. Department of Education. [“Teachers to listen, learn, share practices to improve student achievement.”](#) Press release, April 21, 2004.
- U.S. Department of Education. [“Teacher-to-Teacher Initiative: Supporting success.”](#) Fact sheet.

IN THE NEWS

Higher education, teacher preparation

- Viadero, D. [“Teacher education popular topic for panels, commissions.”](#) *Education Week*, April 28, 2004.

Teacher certification and licensure, alternative routes to teaching

- Santasiero, S. [“OPINION: Making a life change to help children and feel more fulfilled.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, April 14, 2004.
- Damron, D., & Shanklin, M. [“Wanted: Teachers and more teachers.”](#) *Orlando Sentinel*, April 18, 2004.
- Shanklin, M., & Damron, D. [“Bus driver working to join teaching ranks.”](#) *Orlando Sentinel*, April 18, 2004.
- Keller, B. [“Teach for America operation to close in Detroit.”](#) *Education Week*, April 21, 2004.
- Nelson, R. [“Rookie teachers recount lessons students taught.”](#) *The (New Orleans) Times-Picayune*, April 24, 2004.
- Bayles, F. [“Gifted engineer traded a top job for the joy of teaching.”](#) *USA Today*, April 25, 2004.
- Viadero, D. [“Pupils of licensed teachers found to score higher in math.”](#) *Education Week*, April 28, 2004.
- Keller, B., Jacobson, L., & Galley, M. [“Teaching & learning: Iowa teachers lose help in preparation for National Board.”](#) *Education Week*, May 5, 2004.

State standards for teachers, HOUSSE

- Keller, B. [“States receive poor marks for teacher-quality standards.”](#) *Education Week*, April 21, 2004.

- Gursky, D., Rose, M., & Moss, D. [“Standards for educators.”](#) (scroll down) in *NEAFT Report, NEA Today*, May 2004.

Teacher testing

- Sullivan, J., & Snyder, S. [“Rendell to weigh making teachers’ test results public.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, April 9, 2004.
- Woodall, M. [“Test results for teachers are not public, the state says.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, April 13, 2004.
- Silberman, T. [“Teacher test may be dropped.”](#) *The (Raleigh, N.C.) News & Observer*, April 28, 2004.

Teacher and principal recruitment, hiring

- Archer, J. [“Study: Fixing human resources is no small task for districts.”](#) *Education Week*, April 14, 2004.
- Herszenhorn, D. [“City plans ads to recruit teachers and praise teaching.”](#) *New York Times*, April 14, 2004.
- Herszenhorn, D. [“City unveils ad campaign for ‘brightest’ heroes: Teachers.”](#) *New York Times*, April 15, 2004.
- Gursky, D., Rose, M., & Moss, D. [“Gap shrinkers.”](#) in *NEAFT Report, NEA Today*, May 2004.

Teacher and principal assignment, distribution

- Keller, B. [“Community tries to influence teachers’ pact.”](#) *Education Week*, April 28, 2004.
- Keller, B., Jacobson, L., & Galley, M. [“Teaching & learning: Data searches.”](#) *Education Week*, May 5, 2004. (scroll down)

Novice teachers

- Jensen, J.J. [“When a rookie teacher gets the veteran treatment.”](#) *Seattle Times*, April 28, 2004.
- *Chicago Sun-Times* staff. [“Teacher academy program targets new Chicago public school teachers.”](#) *Chicago Sun-Times*, May 4, 2004.
- Keller, B. [“Report Roundup: New teachers.”](#) *Education Week*, May 5, 2004. (scroll down)

Veteran teacher turnover, layoffs

- Dean, M. [“Almost 8 percent of city teachers apply for early retirement.”](#) *Philadelphia Daily News*, April 17, 2004.
- Snyder, S. [“Schools could face exodus of retirees.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, April 17, 2004.
- Wagman, J. [“Retirement plan goes to School Board.”](#) *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, April 27, 2004.
- Chavez, E., [“Veteran teachers may face layoffs.”](#) *Sacramento Bee*, May 3, 2004.

Rehiring retired teachers and principals

- Rockoff, J. [“Maryland’s use of retired teachers nears an end.”](#) *Baltimore Sun*, April 14, 2004.
- Rockoff, J. [“Rehiring law’s demise likely to end careers.”](#) *Baltimore Sun*, April 15, 2004.

- Trejos, N. [“Failure to retain Md. program pushing older teachers out.”](#) *Washington Post*, April 23, 2004, B01.
- Seay, G. [“2 retiring teachers offer to return for less money.”](#) *Hartford Courant*, April 26, 2004.

Teacher compensation, financial incentives

- Sack, J.L. [“News in Brief: A state capitals roundup – Tenn. lawmakers consider plan to raise teacher pay.”](#) *Education Week*, April 21, 2004. (scroll down)
- Associated Press. [“Steamboat Springs teacher-pay plan deemed too costly.”](#) *Rocky Mountain News*, May 5, 2004.

Professional development and support

- Illinois State Board of Education. [“Illinois Mathematics and Science Partnerships grants awarded: 1,000 teachers expected to take advantage of program.”](#) Press release, March 5, 2004.
- Langland, C. [“He enhances math by teaching the teachers.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, April 2, 2004.
- Hobbs, T. [“105 early childhood educators to get training thanks to grant.”](#) *Dallas Morning News*, April 12, 2004.
- *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* staff. [“OUR OPINIONS: Help for teachers should be part of math equation.”](#) *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, April 16, 2004.
- Callahan, T. [“OPINION: EQUAL TIME: Teachers need tools to succeed.”](#) *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, April 16, 2004.
- Silberman, T. [“Teacher retreat to open on coast.”](#) *The (Raleigh, N.C.) News & Observer*, April 26, 2004.

Working conditions

- Melendez, M., & Kossan, P. [“Colleagues applaud teacher who took unruly kid to court.”](#) *Arizona Republic*, April 19, 2004.
- Whiting, B. [“Teacher wins restraining order against student.”](#) *Arizona Republic*, April 21, 2004.
- Whiting, B. [“Teacher wins court protection.”](#) *Arizona Republic*, April 21, 2004.
- Burrough, D.J. [“A teacher fights back against unruly kids.”](#) *Christian Science Monitor*, April 23, 2004.
- Keller, B. [“Report Roundup: Parent communication.”](#) *Education Week*, May 5, 2004. (scroll down)

Teacher evaluation, effectiveness

- Sanders, J. [“Bill would let students grade teachers.”](#) *Sacramento Bee*, April 11, 2004.
- Associated Press. [“Nashua board considers allowing students to rate teachers.”](#) *Boston Globe*, April 12, 2004.

Teacher absenteeism

- Snyder, S. [“Philadelphia schools report 6 percent teacher-absence rate: The district is seeking ways to boost attendance – among instructors.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, April 23, 2004.
- DiMassa, C.M. [“Absentee rate has LAUSD worried.”](#) *Los Angeles Times*, April 30, 2004.

Substitute teacher standards, preparation, support

- Buchthal, K. [“Training varies for substitute teachers.”](#) *Indianapolis Star*, April 19, 2004.

Teachers of hard-to-fill subjects

- Russell, A. [“Host program offers a slice of American pie.”](#) *The Age (Australia)*, April 19, 2004.
- Maxwell, L. [“\\$7 million gift to boost math, science teaching.”](#) *Sacramento Bee*, April 19, 2004.
- Keller, B., Jacobson, L., & Galley, M. [“Teaching & learning: Teacher education philanthropy.”](#) *Education Week*, May 5, 2004. (scroll down)

Urban teachers

- Ferrick, Jr., T. [“OPINION: City teachers must also be partners.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, April 16, 2004.
- Bradley, A. [“News in Brief: A national roundup – Grant aims to aid teaching in three Midwestern cities.”](#) *Education Week*, April 21, 2004.

Teacher quality

- Shanklin, M., & Damron, D. [“Best students don’t teach.”](#) *Orlando Sentinel*, April 19, 2004.
- Rich, D. [“OPINION: Teaching is more art than government knows.”](#) *Detroit News*, April 25, 2004.
- Mitchell, R. [“OPINION: Dumbing down our schools.”](#) *Washington Post*, April 27, 2004, A21.
- Pullin, D., [“OPINION: Teacher quality: More reasons it deserves attention.”](#) *Education Week*, April 28, 2004.

Leadership in low-performing schools

- Mathews, J. [“Principal leaves troubled school.”](#) *Washington Post*, April 21, 2004, B05.
- Archer, J. [“Va. principal cadre aims to fix schools.”](#) *Education Week*, April 28, 2004.
- Archer, J. [“Chicago fund to raise \\$15 million for leadership projects.”](#) *Education Week*, May 5, 2004.

RECENT BOOKS, ARTICLES, AND REPORTS

Higher education, teacher preparation

- [Preparing Teachers for Diversity](#)
Ladson-Billings, G., *WCER Research Highlights*, 15(4), 5, Winter 2003/04

Teacher certification and licensure, alternative routes to teaching

- [Prepared to Teach: Teacher Preparation and Student Achievement in Eighth-Grade Mathematics](#)
Greenberg, E., Rhodes, D., Ye, X., & Stancavage, F., American Institutes for Research, 23 pp., April 2004

Teacher standards, HOUSSE

- [Necessary and Insufficient: Resisting a Full Measure of Teacher Quality](#)
Tracy, C.O., & Walsh, K., National Council on Teacher Quality, 20 pp., Spring 2004

Teacher and principal recruitment, hiring

- [Landing the “Highly Qualified Teacher”](#)
Rothman, R., *Harvard Education Letter: Research Online* (full text), January/February 2004
- [From Bystander to Ally: Transforming the District Human Resources Department](#)
Campbell, C., DeArmond, M., & Schumwinger, A., University of Washington, Center for Reinventing Public Education, 63 pp., April 2004
 - [Executive Summary](#)
 - [Policy Brief](#), 2 pp.

Novice teachers

- [Taking Care of Novice Teachers](#)
Makkonen, R., *Harvard Education Letter: Research Online* (abstract), May/June 2004
- [Building a Professional Teaching Corps in Boston](#)
Boston Plan for Excellence in the Public Schools, *forthcoming*

Mentoring and support

- [Mentoring New Leaders](#)
Holloway, J.H., *Educational Leadership*, 61(7), 87-88, April 2004

Professional development

- [Preparing the Highly Qualified Principal](#)
Russo, A., *Harvard Education Letter: Research Online* (abstract), March/April 2004
- [A Collision Course: High Expectations for Students, Low Investment in Teacher Training](#)
The Center for the Future of Teaching & Learning, *Centerview*, 5 pp., April 2004

Teacher evaluation, effectiveness

- [Dimensions of Effective Teaching](#)
Rothman, R., *Harvard Education Letter: Research Online* (abstract), January/February 2004
- [How Effective Are National Board-Certified Teachers?](#)
ASCD ResearchBrief, 2(8), April 13, 2004

Teachers of hard-to-fill subjects

- [State Indicators of Science and Mathematics Education, 2003](#)
Blank, R., & Langesen, D., Council of Chief State School Officers, 119 pp., 2003
(See Chapter 3: Indicators of Teacher Quality on p. 53, and Appendix A: Meeting NCLB Goals for Highly Qualified Teachers on p. 87.)

Teacher quality

- [Where We Stand on Teacher Quality](#)
Educational Testing Service, 13 pp., April 2004
- [TQ Update](#)
Education Commission of the States newsletter, April – May 2004

The Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) is a bipartisan, 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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