



# Teacher Quality and Improvement

*e-Newsletter of the CCSSO Teacher Quality Network*

December 10, 2004, Vol. 1, No. 17

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](mailto: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/TQINewsletter10Dec.pdf>. The PDF version of the previous issue is available at <http://www.ccsso.org/content/pdfs/TQINewsletter24Nov.pdf>.

The Teacher Quality and Improvement newsletter is made possible through generous funding from the Joyce Foundation.

## SOME OF THE TOP STORIES

### **Report concludes that inconsistent or no teacher training to work with immigrant students is a major barrier to improving educational outcomes for Latino students in the South**

- *The New Latino South and the Challenge to Public Education: Strategies for Educators and Policymakers in Emerging Immigrant Communities*  
Tomás Rivera Policy Institute, University of Southern California, 2004
- [Full report](#), 48 pp.
- [Press release](#), December 9, 2004, 3 pp.
- Wyatt, K. "[Southeast unprepared to teach Hispanics.](#)" *Baltimore Sun/Associated Press*, December 10, 2004.

#### **Also:**

- Wyatt, K. "[Southeast unprepared to teach Hispanics.](#)" *Boston Globe/Associated Press*, December 10, 2004.

### **Anne Arundel County, Md. considers expanding incentives for teachers and principals who take on tougher assignments and that reward them when schools show improvement**

- Kay, L.F. "[Schools may expand bonuses.](#)" *Baltimore Sun*, November 28, 2004.

**Working conditions: Violent school crime rate decreases, but on average, teachers are still victims of more than 90,000 violent crimes at school each year**

- [Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2004](#)  
DeVoe, J., Peter, K., Kaufman, P., Miller, A., Noonan, M., Snyder, T., & Baum, K., National Center for Education Statistics and Bureau of Justice Statistics, November 2004, 189 pp.
- U.S. Department of Education. [“Violent crime rate against students drops, new report says.”](#) Press release, November 29, 2004.
- Anderson, C. [“Violent school crime falls over 10 years,”](#) *San Diego Union-Tribune/Associated Press*, November 29, 2004.
- Butterfield, F. [“Crime in schools fell sharply over decade, survey shows.”](#) *New York Times*, November 30, 2004.
- Anderson, C. [“Violent crime falls in schools,”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer/Associated Press*, November 30, 2004.
- Anderson, C. [“Violent crime in schools cut in half over 10 years, government says,”](#) *Detroit News/Associated Press*, November 30, 2004.
- Anderson, C. [“Student violence worse off-campus,”](#) *Arizona Republic/Associated Press*, November 30, 2004.
- Associated Press. [“Report: Violent school crime fell by 50% from 1992 to 2002,”](#) *Salt Lake Tribune*, December 8, 2004.
- Borja, R. [“School crime rate drops, federal report says.”](#) *Education Week*, December 8, 2004.

**FEDERAL UPDATE**

**USDE tells Utah that elementary teachers must show evidence of subject-area competence to be highly qualified; degree in elementary education is not enough**

- Lynn, R. [“Feds say Utah’s grade-school teachers fall short,”](#) *Salt Lake Tribune*, December 3, 2004.

**USDE to Chicago: Districts identified for improvement cannot use own teachers in federally-funded tutoring programs**

- Eaton, S. [“COMMENTARY: Outsourcing the tutor’s job,”](#) *Education Week*, December 8, 2004.
- Banchemo, S. [“Schools told to outsource tutoring,”](#) *Chicago Tribune*, December 9, 2004.
- Grossman, K. [“U.S. halts local schools tutoring,”](#) *Chicago Sun-Times*, December 9, 2004.
- Banchemo, S. [“Duncan may sue U.S. over tutoring,”](#) *Chicago Tribune*, December 10, 2004.
- Grossman, K. [“U.S. hits back at Duncan on tutors,”](#) *Chicago Sun-Times*, December 10, 2004.

## Reauthorized IDEA would change highly qualified teacher requirements for new special education teachers

- Samuels, C.A. "[Reauthorized IDEA could shift power to school districts.](#)" *Education Week*, December 1, 2004.
- Overview: "[The new IDEA.](#)" *Education Week*, December 1, 2004.

### Note:

"Another major provision in the bill would clarify what makes a special education teacher "highly qualified" under the provisions of the federal No Child Left Behind Act. Such teachers would have to meet state licensing standards, and those who teach multiple subjects must meet their state's "highly qualified" standard in every subject they teach...

But the measure would give new special education teachers who teach multiple subjects and who are already highly qualified in math, language arts, or science two years to show competency in their additional subjects.

The bill would also permit new special education teachers to become highly qualified under the "high, objective, uniform state standard of evaluation," or HOUSSE. That option allows teachers to show competence without re-enrolling in college or passing a subject-level test."

## IN THE NEWS

### Higher education, teacher preparation

- Letters to the editor. "[Fixing teacher education while improving teaching.](#)" *Education Week*, December 1, 2004.
- Letters to the editor. "[More voices on teacher education.](#)" *Education Week*, December 8, 2004.
- Jacobson, L. "[Accrediting association celebrates 50 with 50.](#)" *Education Week*, December 8, 2004.

### Teacher certification and licensure

- *Boston Herald* staff. "[Great teachers not rocket science.](#)" *Boston Herald*, November 29, 2004.
- *News & Observer* staff, "[8,281 teachers have national certificate.](#)" *The (Raleigh, N.C.) News & Observer*, December 1, 2004.
- Donsky, P. "[450 teachers pass top exam.](#)" *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, December 3, 2004.
- Carroll, H. "[Process puts teachers in students' seats.](#)" *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, December 4, 2004.

### Alternative routes to teaching

- Dana, R. "[Easing way to a teacher certificate.](#)" *Washington Post*, November 25, 2004.
- *Chicago Tribune* staff. "[School district, college offer teaching program.](#)" *Chicago Tribune*, November 30, 2004.

- Kelderman, E. [“Costly new testing program certifies few teachers.”](#) *Stateline.org*, December 2, 2004.

### **Teacher hiring (and rehiring)**

- Knight, H. [“San Francisco ‘Dream’ plan ignites protest; Forced to reapply for jobs, teachers hold spirited rally.”](#) *San Francisco Chronicle*, December 1, 2004.
- Knight, H. [“92 apply for Dream positions.”](#) *San Francisco Chronicle*, December 3, 2004.
- Klausnitzer, D. [“Garcia not filling racial gap, black leaders say,”](#) *The Tennessean*, December 2, 2004.

### **Teacher and principal assignment, distribution**

- Dean, M. [“Students demand greater effort to get qualified teachers.”](#) *Philadelphia Daily News*, December 10, 2004.
- Mezzacappa, D. [“District urged: Assign teachers better.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, December 10, 2004.

### **Teacher supply and demand**

- Keller, B. [“Slightly higher teacher shortages reported in 2003-04.”](#) *Education Week*, December 8, 2004.

### **Mentoring, induction, support**

- Lutz, R. [“Mentoring project pairs new, veteran teachers,”](#) *Des Moines Register*, December 10, 2004.

### **Professional development**

- Williams, J.J. [“St. John teachers may get more cash for training.”](#) *The (New Orleans) Times-Picayune*, December 2, 2004.
- Bhatt, S. [“Seattle outlines \\$100 million plan for better schools,”](#) *Seattle Times*, December 10, 2004.

#### **☆ To teach diverse groups of students**

- Zehr, M.A. [“N.J. teachers get online assistance.”](#) *Education Week*, December 8, 2004.
- New Jersey Department of Education. [“English language learners \(ELL\) in the mainstream.”](#) New Jersey Professional Education Port: Virtual Academy.

#### **☆ To teach subject matter content**

- Cavanagh, S. [“Faking it won’t make it in science,”](#) *Education Week*, December 1, 2004.
- Johnston, R.C. [“News in Brief: Maryland social studies,”](#) *Education Week*, December 1, 2004.
- Diamond, L. [“Shake-up in study of science.”](#) *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, December 2, 2004.

### **Teacher and principal compensation, incentives**

- Carroll, H. [“Ranking Va.’s teacher salaries,”](#) *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, November 27, 2004.

- PR Newswire. [“Georgia early learning professionals receive more than \\$1 million from Smart Start Georgia to increase education, continue work in the field.”](#) Press release, November 30, 2004.
- Frahm, R.A. [“Official urges aid to 8 weak schools.”](#) *Hartford Courant*, November 30, 2004.
- Archer, J. [“Conn. chief seeks help for 8 schools.”](#) *Education Week*, December 8, 2004.
- Keller, B. [“Tight budgets prompt more talk than action on teacher-pay plans.”](#) *Education Week*, December 1, 2004.
- Jerousek, M. [“Teacher pay in Iowa falls to 38<sup>th</sup> in nation.”](#) *DesMoines Register*, December 1, 2004.
- Hui, T.K. [“Board won’t alter scores.”](#) *The (Raleigh, N.C.) News Observer*, December 2, 2004.
- Michals, L. [“Principals respond to goals plan.”](#) *Duluth (Minn.) News Tribune*, December 3, 2004.

## **Working conditions**

### ☆ **School safety and discipline**

- Canham, M. [“Student faces charges for egging teacher.”](#) *Salt Lake Tribune*, November 30, 2004.
- Dean, M. [“Principals letting armed, violent students off.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, December 6, 2004.

### ☆ **Facilities**

- Strauss, V. [“Failing windows offer a sorry view.”](#) *Washington Post*, December 2, 2004.
- Jan, T. [“City to spend at least \\$3m to rid schools of pests, leaky roofs.”](#) *Boston Globe*, December 10, 2004.

## **Teacher effectiveness, evaluation**

- Jacobson, L. [“Students of National-Board teachers gain slight edge.”](#) *Education Week*, December 1, 2004.

## **Teachers of hard-to-fill subjects and specializations**

- Hui, T.K. [“Autism classes need teachers.”](#) *The (Raleigh, N.C.) News & Observer*, November 27, 2004.

## **Substitute teachers**

- Waller, M. [“Schools may farm out sub duty.”](#) *The (New Orleans) Times-Picayune*, December 1, 2004.
- Arend, J. [“Schools seek substitute teachers.”](#) *Dallas Morning News*, December 6, 2004.

## **Rural staff shortages**

- Associated Press. [“Shortage of school psychologists hit Ky. rural areas hard.”](#) *The (Lexington, Ky.) Herald-Leader*, December 6, 2004.

## **Teachers in hard-to-staff schools**

- Guthrie, C. [“Entry #2: Tug of war.”](#) Teacher Leaders Network Weekly Diaries, 2004-05.
- Griego, T. [“Reform exhausting, inspiring.”](#) *Rocky Mountain News*, December 9, 2004.

### **Preschool teacher quality**

- Postal, L., & Mahlburg, B. [“Governor set to allow lower pre-K standards.”](#) *Orlando Sentinel*, December 2, 2004.

### **State progress toward the requirement that all teachers must be highly qualified**

- Olson, L. [“Taking root.”](#) *Education Week*, December 8, 2004.
- Keller, B. [“‘Qualified’ teachers: A victory on paper?”](#) *Education Week*, December 8, 2004.
  - Chart: [“Highly qualified” teachers](#)
  - Chart: [Alternative qualifications](#)
  - Chart: [Testing over time](#)
- Fox, E. [“Report cards provide more, or less, data.”](#) *Education Week*, December 8, 2004.
  - Chart: [Public accountability](#)

## **RECENT BOOKS, ARTICLES, AND REPORTS**

### **Professional development**

- [Teacher Professional Development: A Primer for Parents & Community Members](#)  
Public Education Network and The Finance Project, 2004

### **Working conditions**

- [Teacher Perceptions of the Work Environment in Hard-to-Staff Schools](#)  
Glennie, E., Coble, C.R. & Allen, M. Education Commission of the States, November 2004, 18 pp.

### **Teachers of hard-to-fill subjects and specializations**

- [Special Education: Not So Special for Some](#)  
Center for the Future of Teaching & Learning, *Center View*, August 2004, 6 pp.

### **State progress toward the goal that all teachers will be highly qualified**

- *Quality Teaching Initiatives in Kentucky: A Progress Report*  
Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, November 2004
  - [Full report](#), 22 pp.
  - [Executive summary](#), 3 pp.
  - [Press release](#)
    - Rodriguez, N. [“Teacher pay part of proposal.”](#) *The (Louisville, Ky.) Courier-Journal*, November 23, 2004.
- *California’s Teaching Force 2004: Key Issues and Trends*  
Esch, C., Chang-Ross, C., Guha, R., Tiffany-Morales, J., & Shields, P., The Center for the Future of Teaching and Learning, 2004
  - [Full report](#), 107 pp.
  - [Summary report](#), 11 pp.
  - [Press release](#)

- *Los Angeles Daily News* staff and wire services. "[Teacher shortage looming.](#)" *Los Angeles Daily News*, December 8, 2004.
- Schrag, P. "[Good teachers or just warm bodies?](#)" *San Diego Union-Tribune/Sacramento Bee*, December 10, 2004.

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.

Council of Chief State School Officers  
One Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20001-1431  
Voice: 202.336.7000 fax: 202.408.8072  
[www.ccsso.org](http://www.ccsso.org)