



# Teacher Quality and Improvement

*e-Newsletter of the CCSSO Teacher Quality Network*

June 10, 2005, Vol. 2, No. 9

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/TQINewsletter10Jun05.pdf>. All previous issues are posted on the CCSSO website at [http://www.ccsso.org/whats\\_new/newsletters/teacher\\_quality\\_and\\_improvement/index.cfm](http://www.ccsso.org/whats_new/newsletters/teacher_quality_and_improvement/index.cfm).

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## **CCSSO CONVENES FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF STATE TEACHER QUALITY NETWORK**

On June 2-3, 2005, representatives from twenty-three states assembled in Washington, DC to address state-level actions needed to improve teaching quality in high-poverty, low-performing schools. Network members from ten state education agencies reported on promising policies and programs aimed to ensure an equitable distribution of quality teachers in their states. State panelists were joined by Dr. Barnett Berry from the Southeast Center on Teaching Quality and by Dr. Stephanie Hirsh from the National Staff Development Council to examine potential policy changes and state-level strategies to support district efforts to:

1. build a critical mass of qualified, experienced teachers willing to work in hard-to-staff schools;
2. strengthen the skills, knowledge, and qualifications of teachers already working in these schools;
3. ensure that teachers have the specialized skills and knowledge they need to be effective with the populations of students typically served in high-poverty, low-performing schools (including Native American students, English language learners, and other students at risk); and
4. improve the conditions in hard-to-staff schools that contribute to excessively high rates of teacher turnover.

Papers, presentations, and additional information from the meeting will be posted on CCSSO's website. For further information, contact Cindy Prince, Director of Teacher Professional Development ([cindyp@ccsso.org](mailto:cindyp@ccsso.org), 202-312-6868). The State Teacher Quality Network is supported by funding from the Joyce Foundation.

## SOME OF THE TOP STORIES

### More than half of California teachers with 25% or more English language learners in their classes report that they have received little or no training on how to teach ELLs

- [Listening to Teachers of English Language Learners: A Survey of California Teachers' Challenges, Experiences, and Professional Development Needs](#)  
Gándara, P., Maxwell-Jolly, J., & Driscoll, A., Policy Analysis for California Education/Center for the Future of Teaching and Learning/University of California Linguistic Minority Research Institute, May 2005, 32 pp.
- Center for the Future of Teaching and Learning. ["Survey examines challenges of teaching California's English learning students."](#) Press release, May 16, 2005.
- Zehr, M.A. ["Report Roundup: English-language learners,"](#) *Education Week*, May 25, 2005.

### Gov. Schwarzenegger announces incentives, accelerated degree programs to boost the number of new California math and science teachers

- Schevitz, T. ["Major push to mint math, science teachers; UC, CSU announce incentives to increase number of graduates,"](#) *San Francisco Chronicle*, June 1, 2005.
- Mehta, S. ["A formula for more math teachers,"](#) *Los Angeles Times*, June 1, 2005.
- Fox, B. ["California universities to train more math, science teachers,"](#) *Sacramento Bee*, June 1, 2005.
- Marelius, J. ["More math, science teachers to be trained,"](#) *San Diego Union-Tribune*, June 1, 2005.
- Fox, M.A., & Thiemens, M. ["OPINION: Expanding the pool of math and science teachers,"](#) *San Diego Union-Tribune*, June 1, 2005.

### Providence Journal series provides inside look at teacher working conditions and student learning conditions in a low-performing Rhode Island middle school

- Providence Journal staff. ["Lost in the middle: A five-part series,"](#) *Providence Journal*, June 6, 2005.
- Needham, C. ["Learning suffers in an unruly atmosphere,"](#) *Providence Journal*, June 6, 2005.
- Providence Journal staff. ["Woonsocket Middle School: Report card,"](#) *Providence Journal*, June 6, 2005.
- Needham, C. ["Lost in the middle, Day 2: The principal,"](#) *Providence Journal*, June 7, 2005.
- Providence Journal staff. ["Woonsocket Middle School, Day 2: Report Card,"](#) *Providence Journal*, June 7, 2005.
- Needham, C. ["Lost in the middle, Day 3: 'I want to see our school saved'; Teachers air their concerns,"](#) *Providence Journal*, June 8, 2005.
- Providence Journal staff. ["Woonsocket Middle School, Day 3: Report card,"](#) *Providence Journal*, June 8, 2005.
- Needham, C. ["Lost in the middle, Day 4: Students without moorings,"](#) *Providence Journal*, June 9, 2005.

- *Providence Journal* staff. [“Woonsocket Middle School, Day 4: Report card,”](#) *Providence Journal*, June 9, 2005.
- Needham, C. [“Lost in the middle, Day 5: Defender D’Acchioli: Superintendent backs middle school,”](#) *Providence Journal*, June 10, 2005.
- Needham, C. [“Lost in the middle, Day 5: Superintendent’s wish list,”](#) *Providence Journal*, June 10, 2005.
- Needham, C. [“Lost in the middle, Day 5: Getting on track to finding some solutions,”](#) *Providence Journal*, June 10, 2005.

## FEDERAL UPDATE

### Teacher Incentive Fund

CCSSO has joined a number of other educational organizations to express support for the Teacher Incentive Fund, a proposal contained in the President’s fiscal year 2006 budget that would provide funds to reward effective teachers, particularly those who work in hard-to-staff schools, and to develop teacher pay-for-performance systems that could serve as models. On June 9, 2005, the House Labor, HHS, Education Appropriations Subcommittee included \$100,000 for the Teacher Incentive Fund in the education bill.

- [FY2006 Labor, HHS, Education Subcommittee Markup](#) (see p. 14)
- Keller, B. [“Administration now promoting incentive fund for teachers,”](#) *Education Week*, May 18, 2005.

### Teacher Excellence for All Children (TEACH) Act of 2005

- Office of Congressman George Miller, 7<sup>th</sup> district, California. [“Representative Miller announces major teacher quality initiative.”](#) Press release, May 24, 2005.
- [Summary of the Teacher Excellence for All Children \(TEACH\) Act of 2005](#)
- Robelen, E. [“News in Brief: A Washington Roundup – Bill proposed to boost highly qualified teachers,”](#) *Education Week*, June 8, 2005.

## IN THE NEWS

### Teacher preparation, higher ed

- Olson, L. [“Education schools use performance standards to improve graduates,”](#) *Education Week*, May 11, 2005.
- Mathews, J. [“A new focus for teachers in training,”](#) *Washington Post*, May 17, 2005, A08.
- Mezzacappa, D. [“Prospective teachers get course in city life,”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, June 1, 2005.
- Jacobson, L. [“Teacher education programs homing in on content,”](#) *Education Week*, June 8, 2005.

## Teacher certification and licensure

- Keller, B. [“Re-up time is here for Board-Certified teachers.”](#) *Education Week*, May 11, 2005.
- Pesznecker, K. [“Teachers may need to pass video test.”](#) *Anchorage Daily News*, June 8, 2005.
- Associated Press. [“Education board: Rookie teachers may need to pass video test.”](#) *Fairbanks Daily News-Miner*, June 8, 2005.

## Alternative routes to teaching

- Howard, T. [“Teach for America volunteer finds work worth staying for.”](#) *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, May 12, 2005.
- Lutz, R. [“Career change + dedication = outstanding math teacher.”](#) *Des Moines Register*, May 12, 2005.
- Donsky, P. [“Stress, satisfaction fill teacher’s first year.”](#) *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, May 22, 2005.
- Pesznecker, K. [“Some Alaska professionals leave careers in favor of teaching.”](#) *Anchorage Daily News*, May 22, 2005.
- Matus, R. [“Teacher plan moves forward despite funding issues.”](#) *St. Petersburg Times*, June 1, 2005.
- Archibald, G. [“New teachers take alternative routes.”](#) *Washington Times*, June 3, 2005.
- Cavanagh, S. [“Alternative-credentialing group adds general science and biology.”](#) *Education Week*, June 8, 2005.

## Teacher testing

- Keller, B. [“Panel urges new testing for teachers.”](#) *Education Week*, May 25, 2005.
- Bowers, M. [“Prospective teachers might have to take literacy test.”](#) *The (Hampton Roads) Virginian-Pilot*, May 26, 2005.
- Prestidge, H. [“Potential teachers may face more assessments.”](#) *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, May 27, 2005.
- Associated Press. [“Board considers new test for teacher licensure.”](#) *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, May 29, 2005.
- Warner, C. [“Attorneys clash over liability in exam errors: Would-be teachers seek damages.”](#) *The (New Orleans) Times-Picayune*, June 3, 2005.

## Teacher recruitment, hiring

- Matus, R. [“Black male teachers needed.”](#) *St. Petersburg Times*, June 3, 2005.
- Rathi, R. [“Paving the way for teaching.”](#) *Los Angeles Times*, June 6, 2005.
- Associated Press. [“Decline in male teachers raises concerns.”](#) *Boston Globe*, June 6, 2005.

## Teacher retention

- Gelpi, G. [“School systems work to retain teachers.”](#) *The (Clayton County, Ga.) News-Daily*, May 7, 2005.

## Teacher assignment, distribution

- Griego, T. [“In the end, it’s about ‘good’ teaching.”](#) *Rocky Mountain News*, May 12, 2005.

- Brandt, S. [“Teacher bill revises ‘last hired, first fired.’”](#) *The (Minneapolis) Star Tribune*, May 23, 2005.
- Russell, J. [“Teachers figure into the school gap.”](#) *San Antonio Express-News*, May 22, 2005.
- Russell, J. [“Schools ranked on teacher quality.”](#) *San Antonio Express-News*, May 24, 2005.
- Herszenhorn, D. [“Teachers pack the Garden to demand a city contract.”](#) *New York Times*, June 3, 2005.

### **Principal recruitment, hiring, and training**

- Salinas, V. [“DISD trustee will seek vote on Spanish rule for principals.”](#) *Dallas Morning News*, May 11, 2005.
- Fisher, M. [“No way to choose a principal.”](#) *Washington Post*, May 12, 2005, B01.
- Archer, J. [“Report Roundup: Leadership training seen to fall short.”](#) *Education Week*, May 25, 2005.

### **Teacher mentoring, induction, support, coaching**

- Herszenhorn, D. [“How a district in the Bronx got results: From pushing.”](#) *New York Times*, May 20, 2005.
- Pesznecker, K. [“New teachers are given a shoulder to lean on.”](#) *Anchorage Daily News*, May 22, 2005.
- Ramirez, E. [“Schools look for reading coaches.”](#) *St. Petersburg Times*, May 23, 2005.
- Ramirez, E. [“Schools to hire 10 reading coaches.”](#) *St. Petersburg Times*, May 25, 2005.

### **Professional development**

- Zehr, M.A. [“Influx of new students can outpace teacher preparation.”](#) *Education Week*, May 11, 2005.
  - Chart: [Missouri](#)
- Watson Arthurs, S. [“25 teachers receive master’s degrees.”](#) *The (Eureka, Cal.) Times-Standard*, May 17, 2005.
- Ramirez, E. [“Educators told to help students bridge poverty gulf.”](#) *St. Petersburg Times*, June 5, 2005.

### **Teacher evaluation, effectiveness**

- Ferry, B. [“Testing teachers: New Mexico is taking the first step in a new national movement to rate educators.”](#) *The (Santa Fe) New Mexican*, May 22, 2005.

### **Teacher compensation, incentives**

- Teacher Leaders Network. [“Exploring teacher compensation and pay for performance.”](#) (Selected comments from *TLN Voices* daily discussion group.)
- Ritter, G., & Lucas, C. [“OPINION: Choosing the lesser of two inequities.”](#) *Education Week*, May 18, 2005.
- Jacobson, L. [“Public supports higher wages, better training for teachers.”](#) *Education Week*, June 8, 2005.

☆ **California**

▪ **Sacramento area**

- Rosenhall, L. [“Merits of ‘recognition pay’ for teachers debated.”](#) *Sacramento Bee*, May 14, 2005.
- Kolber, M. [“West Sac ‘combat pay’ fight.”](#) *Sacramento Bee*, May 23, 2005.

☆ **Colorado**

▪ **Denver**

- Rosenhall, L. [“Unlike in California, teachers union backs Denver pay plan,”](#) *Sacramento Bee*, May 13, 2005.

☆ **Maryland**

▪ **Anne Arundel County**

- de Vise, D. [“Anne Arundel schools to refigure pay scale; Lagging teacher salaries hamper recruitment.”](#) *Washington Post*, May 27, 2005, B01.

▪ **Howard County**

- Cho, H. [“Pay raise approved for rookie teachers.”](#) *Baltimore Sun*, May 27, 2005.

☆ **Missouri**

▪ **Kansas City area**

- Williams, M.R. [“Lee’s Summit raises pay for first-time teachers,”](#) *Kansas City Star*, May 14, 2005.

☆ **Nevada**

▪ **State**

- Ryan, C. [“Senate, Assembly pass pet projects.”](#) *Las Vegas Sun*, June 7, 2005. (see last paragraph)

▪ **Las Vegas** (*housing incentives*)

- Berns, D. [“School district seeks housing crisis solution,”](#) *Las Vegas Business Press*, May 9, 2005.
- Kulin, D. [“New teachers could get money to help buy home.”](#) *Las Vegas Sun*, May 16, 2005.
- Kulin, D. [“Las Vegas to give some new teachers cash toward home.”](#) *Las Vegas Sun*, May 19, 2005.

☆ **New York**

▪ **New York City area**

- Fessenden, F., & Barbanel, J. [“Rise of the six-figure teacher,”](#) *New York Times*, May 15, 2005.
- Fessenden, F. & Barbanel, J. [“6-figure salaries? To many teachers, a matter of course.”](#) *New York Times*, June 5, 2005.

☆ **North Carolina**

▪ **Outer Banks** (*housing incentives*)

- Silberman, T. [“In a class by themselves,”](#) *The (Raleigh, N.C.) News & Observer*, May 22, 2005.

☆ **Texas**

▪ **Houston**

- Spencer, J. [“New HISD bonus plan in works,”](#) *Houston Chronicle*, June 3, 2005.
- Spencer, J. [“Teachers could get \\$3,000 if schools improve,”](#) *Houston Chronicle*, June 7, 2005.
- Spencer, J. [“Teacher bonus plan approved,”](#) *Houston Chronicle*, June 10, 2005.

☆ **Virginia**

▪ **State**

- Keller, B. [“Va. to provide bonuses for middle-grades math teachers,”](#) *Education Week*, May 25, 2005.
  - Virginia Department of Education. [Virginia Middle School Teacher Corps](#)

▪ **Fairfax County**

- Glod, M. [“Schools chief urges higher starting pay,”](#) *Washington Post*, May 19, 2005, VA03.
- Glod, M. [“Fairfax budget raises teachers’ starting pay,”](#) *Washington Post*, May 27, 2005, B02.

▪ **Richmond** (*housing incentives*)

- Meola, O., & Kastner, L. [“Housing for teachers proposed,”](#) *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, May 24, 2005.

**Working conditions**

- Halper, E., & Helfand, D. [“Governor offers plan to reduce class size,”](#) *Los Angeles Times*, May 13, 2005.
- Griego, T. [“Teaching demands ‘smart caring,’”](#) *Rocky Mountain News*, May 19, 2005.
- Sack, J. [“News in Brief: A State Capitals Roundup – Schwarzenegger seeking class-size-reduction aid,”](#) *Education Week*, May 25, 2005.
- Keller, B. [“Report Roundup: Facilities inequities,”](#) *Education Week*, May 25, 2005.
- Russell, J. [“Tradition of excellence,”](#) *San Antonio Express-News*, May 28, 2005.

**Teacher tenure, dismissal**

☆ **Chicago**

- Ihejirika, M. [“Teachers suspicious about firings,”](#) *Chicago Sun-Times*, May 18, 2005.
- Cholo, A.B., with Dell’Angela, T. [“1,100 city teachers losing jobs come fall,”](#) *Chicago Tribune*, May 18, 2005.
- Ihejirika, M. [“Board to study teacher firings at W. Side school,”](#) *Chicago Sun-Times*, May 26, 2005.

☆ **California**

- Freedberg, L. [“OPINION: Dancing the teacher-tenure tango.”](#) *San Francisco Chronicle*, May 16, 2005.
- Osterwalder, J. [“Trying times for teachers.”](#) *The Press-Enterprise* (inland Southern California), May 31, 2005.
- Furillo, A. [“Initiatives on unions, teachers set.”](#) *Sacramento Bee*, June 7, 2005.
- *San Diego Union-Tribune* staff. [“Teacher tenure issue qualifies for ballot.”](#) *San Diego Union-Tribune*, June 7, 2005.

**Teacher turnover, mobility**

- Atkins, K. [“Hub teachers flee MCAS: Tests drive talent to ‘burbs and out of state.”](#) *Boston Herald*, May 22, 2005.
- Menard, J. [“Teachers flee Michigan to find jobs.”](#) *Detroit News*, May 22, 2005.
- Winerip, M. [“New York’s revolving door of good teachers driven out.”](#) *New York Times*, June 1, 2005.

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

- The Center for the Future of Teaching and Learning. [“New California Teacher Advisory Council established to strengthen mathematics and science education.”](#) Press release, March 2, 2005.
- Reimherr, A. [“Teaching scholarships available.”](#) *San Antonio Express-News*, May 4, 2005.
- Keller, B. [“Va. to provide bonuses for middle-grades math teachers.”](#) *Education Week*, May 25, 2005.
- Lopez, L. [“Tigard-Tualatin schools may consider hiring for language.”](#) *The Oregonian*, June 2, 2005.
- Letters to the editor. [“OPINION: Getting the teachers we need: More on the ‘real scandal’ in math education.”](#) *Education Week*, June 8, 2005.
  - University of Arizona, [Center for Recruitment and Retention of Mathematics Teachers](#)
- Rodriguez, N. [“Progress sought in special-ed programs.”](#) *The (Louisville, Ky.) Courier-Journal*, June 8, 2005.

**Teachers in high-poverty, low-performing, and hard-to-staff schools**

- Teacher Leaders Network. [“Policy changes that could help low-performing schools.”](#) (Selected comments from *TLN Voices* daily discussion group.)
- Gewertz, C. [“Urban districts create ‘subsets’ of schools: In effort to raise scores, select groups receive attention, resources.”](#) *Education Week*, May 11, 2005.
- Rogers, B. [“BLOG: Teacher of the year.”](#) *Teacher Magazine*, May 24, 2005.

**May 2005 entries:**

- Being a Brighton teacher, May 24, 2005
- Growing our own, May 15, 2005
- Sense of urgency, May 8, 2005

**April 2005 entries:**

- Recruiting teachers, April 24, 2005
- Testing time, April 18, 2005
- A few “bad apples,” April 10, 2005
- Brighton’s children, April 3, 2005

### **Substitute teachers**

- Ramirez, E. [“No substitute for training substitutes.”](#) *St. Petersburg Times*, May 13, 2005.

### **Highly-qualified tutors**

- Das, A., & Paulson, A. [“Need a tutor? Call India.”](#) *Christian Science Monitor*, May 23, 2005.

### **Teacher quality**

- Charleston Gazette staff. [“Research shows parents want more caring teachers.”](#) *The Charleston (W.V.) Gazette*, May 26, 2005.

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

### **Alternative routes to teaching**

- [Preparing Quality Teachers: A Comparison Of Traditional And Alternative Teacher Preparation Programs](#)  
Earley, D., Goldberg, M.L., & Huie, K., available online from the National Center For Alternative Certification, 2005, 5 pp.

### **Principal recruitment, hiring, and training**

- [The Accidental Principal](#)  
Hess, F., & Kelly, A., *Education Next*, Summer 2005

### **Teacher and principal mentoring, induction, support, coaching**

- ASCD, *Educational Leadership*, 62(8), May 2005  
[Supporting New Educators](#)

Included in this issue:

- *The Right New Teachers*  
Scherer, M.
- *Bridging the Generation Gap*  
Moore Johnson, S., & Kardos, S.
- *Common Space, Common Time, Common Work (abstract)*  
Shank, M.
- *Hazed!*  
Patterson, M.
- *Surviving Day One... And Beyond (abstract)*  
Salvo, J., Kibble, L., Anthony Furay, M., & Sierra, E.
- *Responding to New Teachers’ Concerns (abstract)*  
McCann, T., Johannessen, L., & Ricca, B.

- *What Helps Beginning Teachers? (abstract)*  
Gilbert, L.
- *Cultivating Leaders from Within (abstract)*  
Burdette, M., & Schertzer, K.
- *Supporting New Teachers in the City (abstract)*  
Useem, E., & Curran Neild, R.
- *Growing Into Leadership (abstract)*  
Alvy, H., & Robbins, P.
- *Sustaining the Pipeline of School Administrators (abstract)*  
Pounder, D., & Crow, G.
- *Preparing Teachers for High-Poverty Schools (abstract)*  
Miller, S., Duffy, G., Rohr, J., Gasparello, R., & Mercier, S.
- *Trial by Fire (abstract)*  
Chase Morrison, E.
- *Let Kids Come First (abstract)*  
Rubalcava, M.
- *Improving Teacher Induction*  
Wayne, A., Youngs, P., & Fleischman, S.
- *Meeting New Teachers' Personal Needs*  
Hoerr, T.
- *The Unprepared Administrator*  
Azzam, A.

### **Professional development**

- [\*Preparing and Training Professionals: Comparing Education to Six Other Fields\*](#)  
Neville, K., Sherman, R., & Cohen, C., The Finance Project, 2005, 50pp.

### **Teacher turnover, mobility**

- [\*The Condition of Education 2005, Special Analysis 2005: Mobility in the Teacher Workforce\*](#)  
Provasnik, S., & Dorfman, S., U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2005, 24 pp.

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

- [\*California's Approach to Math Instruction Doesn't Add Up\*](#)  
Center for the Future of Teaching & Learning, April 2005, 4pp.
- Center for the Future of Teaching & Learning. ["73,000 middle school students in California are enrolled in Algebra I classes with underprepared or 'out-of-field' teachers."](#)  
Press release, April 19, 2005.

### **Teacher compensation, incentives**

- [\*State Financial Incentive Policies for Recruiting and Retaining Effective New Teachers in Hard-to-Staff Schools\*](#)  
Johnson, J., *ECS State Notes*, May 2005

## Teacher quality

- [Lifting Teacher Performance](#)  
Leigh, A., & Mead, S., Progressive Policy Institute Policy Report, April 2005, 18 pp.
- Keller, B. "[Report Roundup: Teacher quality seen rooted in academics.](#)" *Education Week*, May 11, 2005.
- [Finding the Teachers We Need](#)  
Hess, F., Rotherham, A., & Walsh, K., *WestEd Policy Perspectives*, May 2005, 12 pp.
- [Policymakers, Researchers Champion Teacher Quality](#)  
ASCD, *EdPolicy Update*, 4(5), June 2005

## Preschool teacher quality

- [From Capitols to Classrooms, Policies to Practice: State-Funded Prekindergarten at the Classroom Level](#)  
Gilliam, W., & Marchesseault, C., National Institute for Early Education Research, March 30, 2005, 37 pp.
- [How to Expand and Improve Preschool in California: Ideals, Evidence, and Policy Options](#)  
Fuller, B., Livas, A., & Bridges, M., Policy Analysis for California Education, 2005, 58 pp.
- Jacobson, L. "[Many pre-K teachers lack state-mandated training, study reveals.](#)" *Education Week*, May 11, 2005.

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

- [The Unreported Consequences of Regulations Which Claim to Create 'Highly Qualified' Teachers](#)

Epstein, K., *Teachers College Record*, ID Number 11749, February 14, 2005

(Note: TC Record requires readers to purchase this article or become a member to view the full-text version.)

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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