



# Teacher Quality and Improvement

*e-Newsletter of the CCSSO Teacher Quality Network*

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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](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/TQINewsletter12Aug04.pdf>. The PDF version of the previous issue is available at <http://www.ccsso.org/content/pdfs/TQINewsletter27Jul04.pdf>.

## **PHILA. PROPOSES ENDING TEACHERS' RIGHTS TO TRANSFER ON BASIS OF SENIORITY**

- Snyder, S. "[Teachers' union irate over pact offer.](#)" *Philadelphia Inquirer*, August 2, 2004.
  - "[District contract proposals for teachers.](#)" *Philadelphia Inquirer*, August 2, 2004.
- Snyder, S. "[Plan would let principals pick staff.](#)" *Philadelphia Inquirer*, August 10, 2004.
- Paslay, C. "[OPINION: Teacher pact bad for teachers.](#)" *Philadelphia Inquirer*, August 12, 2004.

## **TENTATIVE SETTLEMENT REACHED IN CALIFORNIA SUIT OVER INEQUITIES IN TEACHER QUALITY, RESOURCES**

- Folmar, K., & Hull, D. "[Decrepit schools may get millions under state deal.](#)" *The (San Jose) Mercury News*, August 10, 2004.
- Melley, B. "[Calif. reaches deal to end schools lawsuit.](#)" *Washington Post/Associated Press*, August 10, 2004.

Also:

- Melley, B. "[Calif. reaches deal to end schools suit.](#)" *Richmond Times-Dispatch/Associated Press*, August 10, 2004.
- Associated Press. "[Deal ends California suit over shoddy schools.](#)" *CNN.com*, August 11, 2004.
- Associated Press. "[State, ACLU settlement affords little funding for shoddy schools.](#)" *San Diego Union-Tribune*, August 11, 2004.
- Asimov, N. "[Landmark deal reached for state's poor schools.](#)" *San Francisco Chronicle*, August 11, 2004.

- Helfand, D., & DiMassa, C. [“State, ACLU settle suit on education.”](#) *Los Angeles Times*, August 11, 2004.
- Melley, B. [“Schwarzenegger reaches deal to end lawsuit over shoddy schools.”](#) *San Francisco Chronicle/Associated Press*, August 11, 2004.
- Sanders, J. [“Deal on schools lawsuit crafted.”](#) *Sacramento Bee*, August 11, 2004.
- Asimov, N. [“Big win for run-down schools brings hope.”](#) *San Francisco Chronicle*, August 12, 2004.
- Madigan, N. [“California will spend more to help its poorest schools.”](#) *New York Times*, August 13, 2004.

## FEDERAL UPDATE

### USDE’S teacher-to-teacher workshops

- Keller, B. [“News in Brief: A National Roundup – Ed. Dept.’s ‘Teacher Summit’ part of outreach effort.”](#) *Education Week*, July 28, 2004.
- Cavanagh, S. [“Ed. Department providing in-service for teachers.”](#) *Education Week*, August 11, 2004.

### More USDE grants awarded for teacher professional development in American history

- Sturrock, C. [“Oakland: \\$2 million grant to help history teachers.”](#) *San Francisco Chronicle*, July 30, 2004.
- *Times-Picayune* St. Tammany bureau. [“Grant to hone teacher skills.”](#) *The (New Orleans) Times-Picayune*, August 13, 2004.

## IN THE NEWS

### Teacher and principal preparation, higher ed

- Booth-Reed, J. [“FGCU may add teacher programs.”](#) *The (Southwest Fla.) News-Press*, August 3, 2004.

### Teacher testing

- Jacobson, L. [“Scoring error clouds hiring of teachers.”](#) *Education Week*, July 28, 2004.
- Associated Press. [“Teachers sue test firm, claim it has monopoly.”](#) *The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer*, August 5, 2004.
- Hetzner, A. [“Teacher certification will face its own test.”](#) *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*, August 8, 2004.

### Teacher certification and licensure

- Trotter, A. [“News in Brief: A National Roundup – Ga. educators lose licenses over degrees from Liberia.”](#) *Education Week*, July 28, 2004. (scroll down)
- Associated Press. [“Illinois eases some teaching requirements.”](#) *Boston Globe*, August 2, 2004.

- Snyder, S. [“Coaches are in short supply at Phila. public schools.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, August 11, 2004.

### **Alternative routes to teaching**

- Letters to the Editor. [“Teach for America: Two testimonials.”](#) *Education Week*, July 28, 2004.
- *Chicago Sun-Times* staff. [“Special ed training at St. Xavier.”](#) *Chicago Sun-Times*, August 3, 2004.
- *Chicago Sun-Times* staff. [“Math, science teaching program.”](#) *Chicago Sun-Times*, August 3, 2004. (scroll down)

### **Teacher recruitment and hiring**

- Weier, A. [“Helping poor kids learn.”](#) *The (Madison, Wis.) Capital Times*, July 5, 2004.
- Winchester, D. [“Pinellas hires hundreds of new teachers.”](#) *St. Petersburg Times*, July 28, 2004.
- Serna, S. [“School districts still looking to fill teacher openings.”](#) KWTX.com (Central Texas), August 4, 2004.
- Watson, B. [“DISD sees influx of new teachers.”](#) *Dallas Morning News/WFAA-TV*, August 5, 2004.
- Zuñiga, J. [“School bell rings for teachers.”](#) *Houston Chronicle*, August 10, 2004.
- Mitchell, N. [“Hustling for teachers.”](#) *Rocky Mountain News*, August 13, 2004.
- Rasheed, A. [“N.O. schools scrambling to find teachers.”](#) *The (New Orleans) Times-Picayune*, August 13, 2004.

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

- Shanklin, M. [“23 F-school teachers are relocated.”](#) *Orlando Sentinel*, July 29, 2004.
- Draper, N. [“Teachers challenge Minneapolis reassignment plan.”](#) *The (Minneapolis) Star Tribune*, August 4, 2004.
- Brandt, S. [“Teacher reassignments will stand, board says.”](#) *The (Minneapolis) Star Tribune*, August 11, 2004.
- Okoben, J., & Reed, E. [“Teachers grateful for new classes.”](#) *The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer*, August 11, 2004.

### **Novice teachers and principals**

- Lopez, L. [“Sherwood High handbook will guide new teachers, staff.”](#) *The Oregonian*, July 29, 2004.
- White, K. [“Jitters affect new teachers, too.”](#) *The (Raleigh, N.C.) News & Observer*, July 30, 2004.
- Miller, M. [“Exhilaration, nerves greet first-timers.”](#) *St. Petersburg Times*, August 1, 2004.
- Hagen, M. [“School already in session for parish’s new teachers.”](#) *The (New Orleans) Times-Picayune*, August 5, 2004.
- Donsky, P. [“The jitters aren’t just for kids.”](#) *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, August 10, 2004.
- Simon, P. [“New principals take over.”](#) *Buffalo News*, August 11, 2004.

## Teacher and principal compensation, incentives

- Erickson, D. [“More pay for best teachers.”](#) *Wisconsin State Journal*, July 18, 2004.
- Green, A. [“Board questions tuition aid to teachers.”](#) *The Oregonian*, July 29, 2004.
- Associated Press. [“Scholarships for aspiring teachers survive cuts.”](#) *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, August 11, 2004.
- Greene, J. [“OPINION: How to get the most out of our teachers.”](#) *Rocky Mountain News*, August 12, 2004.
- Mathews, J. [“Paying teachers and students for good scores.”](#) *Washington Post*, August 10, 2004.

## Professional development and support

- Murray, C. [“ED applies data to teacher development.”](#) *eSchool News*, July 21, 2004.
- Silberman, T. [“Law limits school year, training days.”](#) *The (Raleigh, N.C.) News & Observer*, August 10, 2004.
- Daniels, C. [“Enrichment courses let teachers be students.”](#) *Los Angeles Times*, August 11, 2004.

### ☆ To teach diverse groups of students

- Zehr, M.A. [“Ariz. educators to get mandatory training in English immersion.”](#) *Education Week*, July 28, 2004.
- Keung Hui, T. [“Breaching culture barriers: Program shows teachers how to reach students with limited English ability.”](#) *The (Raleigh, N.C.) News & Observer*, July 30, 2004.
- Carroll, H. [“Migrant students to get more math help.”](#) *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, August 2, 2004.
- *Indianapolis Star* staff. [“IU to receive \\$618,503 in No Child Left Behind grant.”](#) *Indianapolis Star*, August 6, 2004.
- Snyder, S. [“Bilingual students get new attention.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, August 12, 2004.

### ☆ To teach academic content

- Montero, D. [“Math not a chore, new approach teaches.”](#) *Rocky Mountain News*, August 3, 2004.
- Springston, R., & McAtee, J. [“Teachers become hunters to chase bright, elusive dragonfly with nets.”](#) *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, August 4, 2004.
- Jacobson, L., Manzo, K.K., & Cavanagh, S. [“Teaching & Learning: Science aid.”](#) *Education Week*, August 11, 2004. (scroll down)

## Working conditions

- Associated Press. [“About half of teachers say classes are too big.”](#) *The Charlotte (N.C.) Observer*, July 29, 2004.
- Bland, K. [“Educators tackle classroom discipline.”](#) *Arizona Republic*, August 13, 2004.
- MacDonald, M. [“State lifts limit on size of science classes to 30.”](#) *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, August 13, 2004.

## Teacher evaluation, effectiveness

- Mathews, J. [“Using AP tests to rate teachers.”](#) *Washington Post*, July 20, 2004.

## Teachers of hard-to-fill subjects

- Davis, M. [“Special ed. teachers behind on compliance with law, GAO says.”](#) *Education Week*, July 28, 2004.
- Hickerson, P. [“Classroom change coming to special ed.”](#) *Birmingham News*, August 9, 2004.

## Teacher and principal turnover, layoffs

- Okoben, J. [“Cleveland teachers in job limbo.”](#) *The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer*, July 30, 2004.

## Preschool teacher quality

- Toppo, G. [“It’s as simple as ABC: Preschool teachers should have a B.A.”](#) *USA Today*, July 28, 2004.
- Jacobson, L., Manzo, K.K., & Cavanagh, S. [“Teaching & Learning: 4-year degrees urged for those who teach infants and toddlers.”](#) *Education Week*, August 11, 2004.

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

- Minter, S. [“OPINION: Down the rabbit hole.”](#) *Education Week*, July 28, 2004.
- Richard, A. [“Teacher-quality rules uneven for rural states.”](#) *Education Week*, July 28, 2004.
  - Accompanying table: [“Extensions affect regions differently,”](#) *Education Week*, July 28, 2004.
- Richard, A. [“ECS gives mixed marks on ‘No Child’ efforts.”](#) *Education Week*, July 28, 2004.
- DeFilippo, L. [“Schools get new No Child Left Behind policy.”](#) *Jersey Journal*, August 2, 2004.
- Kelderman, E. [“SE states struggle with teacher quality rules.”](#) *Stateline.org*, August 2, 2004.
- Jacobson, L., Manzo, K.K., & Cavanagh, S. [“Teaching & Learning: Perplexed by new rules,”](#) *Education Week*, August 11, 2004.
- Richard, A. [“Southern states see progress toward goals.”](#) *Education Week*, August 11, 2004.

## RECENT BOOKS, ARTICLES, AND REPORTS

### Teacher recruitment and retention

- *Final Report of the Task Force on Educational Excellence* (see pp. 31-45, “Strengthening the State’s efforts to attract and retain high quality teachers as a means to improve student achievement”) Governor’s Task Force on Educational Excellence, State of Wisconsin, 125 pp., June 2004
  - [Letter from the Task Force chair](#), 1 page
  - [Full report](#), 125 pp.
- [Teachers Wanted: Attracting and Retaining Good Teachers](#) Heller, D., Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, 115 pp., 2004

## Professional development

### ☆ Using data to inform instruction and guide decisions

- [Teaching by the Numbers](#)  
Riha Linik, J., *Northwest Education Magazine*, 9(4), Summer 2004, 3 pp.
- [Evaluation in the Classroom](#)  
Stepanek, J., *Northwest Education Magazine*, 9(4), Summer 2004, 4 pp.

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

- *Unfulfilled Promise: Ensuring High Quality Teachers for Our Nation's Students*  
Southeast Center for Teaching Quality, August 2004
  - [Full report](#), 22 pp.
  - [Press release](#), 2 pp.
  - [Extensive findings](#), 40 pp.

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