



# Teacher Quality and Improvement

*e-Newsletter of the CCSSO Teacher Quality Network*

January 12, 2005, Vol. 2, No. 1

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/TQINewsletter12Jan05.pdf>. The PDF version of the previous issue is available at <http://www.ccsso.org/content/pdfs/TQINewsletter29Dec.pdf>.

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

## SOME OF THE TOP STORIES

### Gov. Schwarzenegger proposes basing California teachers' pay on performance, not seniority

- Associated Press. ["Transcript of Schwarzenegger's State of the State address,"](#) *Los Angeles Times*, January 5, 2005.
- Halper, E. ["Education budget on hit list,"](#) *Los Angeles Times*, January 6, 2005.
- Bluth, A.H. ["Analysis: Deal's off; education leaders fume,"](#) *Sacramento Bee*, January 7, 2005.
- Gerstner, L., Jr. ["OPINION: Do the math: Money plus merit equals better teachers,"](#) *Los Angeles Times*, January 7, 2005.
- Helfand, D. & Rubin, J. ["Educators warn of plan's dire impact,"](#) *Los Angeles Times*, January 7, 2005.
- Moran, C. & Gao, H. ["Proposed merit pay for teachers poses some sticky issues,"](#) *San Diego Union-Tribune*, January 7, 2005.
- Zaragoza, L. ["Educators frown upon governor's reform plans,"](#) *The (San Jose) Mercury News*, January 7, 2005.
- *Mercury News* editorial staff. ["OPINION: Governor failing the funding test for education,"](#) *The (San Jose) Mercury News*, January 7, 2005.
- *San Diego Union-Tribune* editorial staff. ["OPINION: Right on, governor,"](#) *San Diego Union-Tribune*, January 9, 2005.

- Wiener, J. "[Teachers react to merit-pay proposal.](#)" *Sacramento Bee*, January 9, 2005.
- DiMassa, C.M., & Rubin, J. "[Teachers unions blast governor's merit pay plan.](#)" *Los Angeles Times*, January 10, 2005.
- Freedberg, L. "[OPINION: Blaming the teacher.](#)" *San Francisco Chronicle*, January 10, 2005.
- *Sacramento Bee* editorial staff. "[OPINION: Paying teachers? Well... Why not pay more for the hardest jobs?](#)" *Sacramento Bee*, January 11, 2005.
- Martin, M. "[Governor's allies put labor on the defensive: Unions scramble to protect pensions, teachers' salaries.](#)" *San Francisco Chronicle*, January 12, 2005.
- Sack, J. "[State of the States: Schwarzenegger targets teacher-pay structure.](#)" *Education Week*, January 12, 2005.

### **Maryland adopts new standards for high-quality teacher professional development**

- Maryland State Department of Education. "[State sets standards for high quality professional development for teachers.](#)" News release, December 7, 2004.
- [Helping Teachers Help All Students: The Imperative for High-Quality Professional Development](#)  
Maryland Teacher Professional Development Advisory Council, report submitted to the Maryland State Superintendent of Schools, December 2004, 101 pp.
- [Maryland Teacher Professional Development Standards](#), 2 pp.
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#) about the Maryland Teacher Professional Development [Standards](#), 5 pp.
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#) about the [Survey](#) of Teacher Participation in High-Quality Professional Development, 7 pp.
- [PowerPoint presentation](#) made by the Maryland Teacher Professional Development Advisory Council to the Maryland State Board of Education, December 2004

### **Louisiana, South Carolina, Connecticut, Arkansas, and Kentucky recognized for efforts to improve teacher quality**

- [Table: Summary of Grades by State](#)  
(See column 2 for grades awarded to each state for efforts to improve teacher quality.)
- [Table: Efforts to Improve Teacher Quality](#)
- Skinner, R. "[State of the states.](#)" *Education Week*, January 6, 2005.

### **Quality Counts examines teacher compensation, incentives, pay-for-performance in 2005 study of state education finance systems**

- McCabe, M. "[Salary adjustments.](#)" *Education Week*, January 6, 2005.
- [Chart: Performance-pay pioneers](#)

#### **See also:**

- *Education Week*. "[State systems for financing public education are in flux: Thirty-one states considering major changes.](#)" Press release, January 5, 2005.

- Editors. [“Financing better schools,”](#) *Education Week: Quality Counts 2005*, January 6, 2005.
- Olson, L. [“Financial evolution,”](#) *Education Week: Quality Counts 2005*, January 6, 2005.
- Johnston, R. [“Making every dollar count,”](#) *Education Week: Quality Counts 2005*, January 6, 2005.

### **Utah to consider alternative teacher compensation systems, incentives for teachers in hard-to-staff schools**

- Lynn, R. [“School officials vetting compensation for teachers,”](#) *Salt Lake Tribune*, January 12, 2005.

### **New RAND study finds California fares poorly on nearly every indicator of education quality examined, including teacher pay, teacher qualifications, and student-teacher ratio**

- [California’s K-12 Public Schools: How Are They Doing?](#)  
Carroll, S., Krop, C., Arkes, J., Morrison, P., & Flanagan, A., RAND Corporation, 2005
  - [Full Document](#), 258 pp.
  - [Summary](#), 19 pp.
    - Burrell, J. [“Study paints dismal picture of state’s schools,”](#) *The (San Jose) Mercury News*, January 4, 2005.
    - Coleman, J. [“Report: Calif. schools lag behind other states,”](#) *San Francisco Chronicle/Associated Press*, January 4, 2005.
    - Helfand, D. [“Study offers grim look at schools,”](#) *Los Angeles Times*, January 4, 2005.
    - Kolber, M. [“Marks poor for state’s schools,”](#) *Sacramento Bee*, January 4, 2005.
    - Sack, J. [“New report details not-so-golden state of Calif. education,”](#) *Education Week*, January 12, 2005.

### **California schools now required by state law to post notices informing students and parents about rights to adequate facilities, teachers, and materials**

- Merl, J. [“Schools begin posting accountability notices,”](#) *Los Angeles Times*, January 4, 2005.
- Minugh, K. [“Schools failing to post notices,”](#) *Sacramento Bee*, January 10, 2005.
- Bradley, A. [“News in Brief: A National Roundup – Calif. public schools to post notices on adequate conditions,”](#) *Education Week*, January 12, 2005.

## **FEDERAL UPDATE**

### **States, USDE disagree on highly-qualified status of veteran elementary teachers**

- Keller, B. [“N.D., Utah dispute federal findings on teacher quality,”](#) *Education Week*, January 12, 2005.

## President's high school reform agenda includes \$500 million to reward teachers who increase student achievement

- Feller, B. "[Bush outlines high school student plans.](#)" *Boston Globe/Associated Press*, January 12, 2005.

### Also:

- Feller, B. "[Bush outlines high school student plans.](#)" *Detroit News/Associated Press*, January 12, 2005.
- Feller, B. "[Bush outlines high school student plans.](#)" *Richmond Times-Dispatch/Associated Press*, January 12, 2005.

## IN THE NEWS

### Teacher certification and licensure

- Mid-Atlantic Regional Teachers Project. "[192 new teachers receive 'meritorious' designation; Initiative provides licensing reciprocity in mid-Atlantic region.](#)" Press release, January 4, 2005.
- Forest, A. "[Program lets most learned teach in Va.](#)," *The (Hampton Roads, Va.) Daily Press*, January 6, 2005.
- University of Delaware. "[UD grads honored as Meritorious New Teachers.](#)" Press release, January 7, 2005.
- Jacobson, L. "[Reciprocal license bestowed on new teachers.](#)" *Education Week*, January 12, 2005.
  - [Mid-Atlantic Regional Teachers Project](#)

### Alternative routes to teaching

- Sedam, S. "[Veterans becoming teachers will get aid.](#)" *The Gazette* (suburban Maryland), December 29, 2004.
- Aguilar, A. "[Two paths to the classroom.](#)" *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, December 30, 2004.
- Ihejirika, M. "[Former city lawyer ranks as one of top teachers.](#)" *Chicago Sun-Times*, January 6, 2005.
- Diamond, L. "[TEACHER PROFILE: Career move a healthy choice for former paralegal.](#)" *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, January 11, 2005.
- Silberman, T. "[Teacher training at issue; Report urges more for lateral-entry educators.](#)" *The (Raleigh, N.C.) News & Observer*, January 11, 2005.

### Teacher recruitment

- Chaika, G. "[Recruiting and retaining minority teachers: programs that work!](#)" *Education World*, December 7, 2004.
- National Education Association. "[Tom Joyner Foundation partners with National Education Association: Launch program to boost minority teachers in urban, rural communities.](#)" Press release, January 3, 2005.

- Goddard, J. [“In Florida, a bid to expand the teacher pool.”](#) *Christian Science Monitor*, January 5, 2005.

### **Teacher retention**

- Miller, K. [“School, race, age among clues to why teachers quit.”](#) *Palm Beach Post*, January 2, 2005.
- Harrison, S. [“Broward excels in keeping teachers.”](#) *Miami Herald*, January 8, 2005.

### **Teacher supply and demand**

- Harvey Rosenberg, S. [“Class struggles.”](#) *Miami Herald*, December 30, 2004.

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

- Peck, C. [“Center helps districts invest in new teachers.”](#) *Arizona Republic*, January 3, 2005.
- Thompson, L. [“Teachers go to mentor school.”](#) *Seattle Times*, January 5, 2005.
- Hammond, B. [“Five ideas advocated for schools.”](#) *The Oregonian*, January 12, 2005.
- Gao, H. [“School board freezes spending on math, literacy consultants.”](#) *San Diego Union-Tribune*, January 12, 2005.

### **Professional development**

- Fry, E. [“UAS looks to computers to improve teaching of writing.”](#) *Juneau Empire*, December 16, 2004.
- Cook, A. [“Analysis of test scores offers tailored learning.”](#) *Rapid City (S.D.) Journal*, January 1, 2005.
- Samburg, B. [“Teachers cast a tough eye on one another.”](#) *Boston Globe*, January 2, 2005.
- Jacobson, L. [“Nashville partnership to provide training.”](#) *Education Week*, January 12, 2005.

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

- Archer, J. [“Actual cost of salaries figures into budgets for Oakland’s schools.”](#) *Education Week*, January 5, 2005.
- *Des Moines Register* editorial board. [“OPINION: Revive commitment to teacher-pay plan.”](#) *Des Moines Register*, January 11, 2005.

### **Teacher residency rules**

- Rossi, R. [“More complaints of scofflaw teachers.”](#) *Chicago Sun-Times*, December 31, 2004.

### **Teacher mobility**

- Bhatt, S. [“Schools struggle to reduce high teacher turnover.”](#) *Seattle Times*, January 3, 2005.

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

- Associated Press. [“Wanted: Speech-language pathologists.”](#) *CNN.com*, December 30, 2004.
- Keller, B. [“Company matches foreign teachers and U.S. schools.”](#) *Education Week*, January 5, 2005.
- Loh, L., & Kay, L. [“Schools finding teachers overseas.”](#) *Baltimore Sun*, January 10, 2005.

### **Rural staff shortages**

- Farrell, A. [“School funding is thorniest issue facing lawmakers.”](#) *The (Missoula, Mt.) Missoulian*, December 26, 2004.

### **Urban teachers**

- Zolt, N. [“OPINION: Urban mythbusters.”](#) *Education Week*, January 12, 2005.

### **Highly qualified tutors**

- Gewertz, C. [“Chicago resisting federal directive on NCLB tutoring,”](#) *Education Week*, January 5, 2005.
- Grossman, K.N. [“Illinois seeks way to maintain tutoring program,”](#) *Chicago Sun-Times*, January 6, 2005.

### **Teachers in high-poverty, low-performing schools**

- Sanchez, M. [“OPINION: Reconstitution is no model for modern educational reform,”](#) *San Francisco Chronicle*, January 12, 2005.

### **Teacher quality**

- Gerstner, L.V. [“OPINION: An education reform agenda for the next four years – and beyond,”](#) *Education Week*, January 5, 2005.
- Jacobson, L. [“Online teacher center launched in South,”](#) *Education Week*, January 12, 2005.

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

- Jacobson, L. [“State criticized on standards for veteran teachers,”](#) *Education Week*, January 5, 2005.

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

### **Alternative routes to teaching**

- [Alternative Certification: A Growing Trend to Address the Teacher Shortage](#)  
Mickulecky, M., Shkodriani, G., & Wilner, A., Education Commission of the States, December 2004, 5 pp.
- [Trading Places](#)  
Michie, G., *Teacher Magazine*, 16(4), 24-28, January 1, 2005

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

- [Literacy Coaches: An Evolving Role](#)  
Hall, B., *Carnegie Reporter*, 3(1), Fall 2004
- [The PASS Act Would Fund Literacy Coaching and Other Literacy Efforts](#)  
*Carnegie Reporter*, 3(1), Fall 2004
- [The Buddy System](#)  
Wagner, T., *Teacher Magazine*, 16(4), 34-36, January 1, 2005

## Professional development

- [Professional Development and Teacher Learning: Mapping the Terrain](#)  
Borko, H., *Educational Researcher*, 33(8), November 2004, 13 pp.
- [Bartleby, Savitri, & Me](#)  
Swope, S., *Teacher Magazine*, 16(4), 20-23, January 1, 2005

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.

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