



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. If you are having problems reading this file, the PDF version of this newsletter is available at <http://www.ccsso.org/content/pdfs/TQINewsletter14Feb05.pdf>. The PDF version of the previous issue is available at <http://www.ccsso.org/content/pdfs/TQINewsletter27Jan05.pdf>.

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All back issues of the [Teacher Quality and Improvement newsletter](#) are archived on the CCSSO website (www.ccsso.org) under "[What's New: Newsletters.](#)" A variety of other CCSSO newsletters can also be found at this site, covering topics such as arts education, assessment, school improvement, reading and writing, and language, culture, and equity.

SOME OF THE TOP STORIES

USDE reverses decision on highly-qualified status of North Dakota teachers

- Dooley, S. "[Federal education officials to visit state.](#)" *Bismarck (N.D.) Tribune*, January 18, 2005.
- Dooley, S. "[State officials confident ruling will be reversed.](#)" *Bismarck (N.D.) Tribune*, January 19, 2005.
- Dooley, S. "[State must comply with federal education ruling.](#)" *Bismarck (N.D.) Tribune*, January 26, 2005.
- Warden, J. "[Dorgan may push for repeal of NCLB.](#)" *Bismarck (N.D.) Tribune/Associated Press*, February 1, 2005.
- Dooley, S. "[Teachers won't have to prove qualifications.](#)" *Bismarck (N.D.) Tribune*, February 11, 2005.
- Dillon, S. "[New U.S. Secretary showing flexibility on 'No Child' Act.](#)" *New York Times*, February 14, 2005.

Virginia's Teacher Retention Initiative credited with dramatic decline in teacher turnover in pilot schools

- Carroll, H. "[Helping hard-to-staff schools.](#)" *Richmond Times Dispatch*, February 10, 2005.
- Virginia Department of Education. "[Incentive program to attract and retain teachers in Virginia's hard-to-staff schools.](#)"
- Office of the Governor of Virginia. "[Teacher Support and Retention.](#)"
- Virginia Department of Education. "[Teacher Retention and Support.](#)"

Virginia Gov. Mark Warner to chair national partnership to improve teaching quality in low-performing schools

- Office of the Governor of Virginia. "[Governor Warner helps launch national effort to improve teaching in hard-to-staff schools.](#)" News release, February 9, 2005.
- Flono, F. "[Challenging schools need quality teachers.](#)" *Charlotte (N.C.) Observer*, February 11, 2005.
- [Qualified Teachers for At-Risk Schools: A National Imperative](#)
National Partnership for Teaching in At-Risk Schools, February 2005, 28 pp.
- National Partnership for Teaching in At-Risk Schools. "[Teaching in at-risk schools focus of new national partnership.](#)" Press release, February 9, 2005.

MORE PROPOSALS FROM THE NATION'S GOVERNORS

- Hoff, D. "[Governors seek new teacher-pay methods.](#)" *Education Week*, February 2, 2005.

Alabama: Gov. Riley proposes earmarking \$725K for bonuses for teachers who work in hard-to-staff schools and teach hard-to-fill subjects

- Robelen, E. "[State of the states: Alabama – Ala. Governor seeks raises for teachers.](#)" *Education Week*, February 9, 2005.

Hawaii: Gov. Lingle backs incentives for preschool teachers who complete more training than minimum required by state

- Jacobson, L. "[State of the states: Hawaii – Gov. Lingle proposes preschool initiative.](#)" *Education Week*, February 9, 2005.

Kentucky: Gov. Fletcher's budget includes \$26M to examine alternative teacher compensation systems

- Hoff, D. "[State of the states: Kentucky – Action on a budget urged by Fletcher.](#)" *Education Week*, February 9, 2005.

Tennessee: Gov. Bredeesen proposes \$5M for a teacher professional-development academy

- Sack, J. "[State of the states: Tennessee – Prekindergarten program a priority for Bredeesen,](#)" *Education Week*, February 9, 2005.

Texas: Gov. Perry advocates increasing teacher pay by \$7,500 in lowest-performing schools

- Hoff, D. "[State of the states: Texas – Gov. Perry outlines agenda for Texas,](#)" *Education Week*, February 2, 2005.

Minnesota: Gov. Pawlenty seeks \$60M in incentive aid for districts willing to institute performance-based teacher pay

- Johnston, R. "[State of the states: Minnesota – New teacher-pay plan tops governor's agenda,](#)" *Education Week*, February 2, 2005.

Wisconsin: Gov. Doyle proposes \$1.8M program so that districts can reward teachers for gains in skills and knowledge and for taking on more challenging assignments

- Hetzner, A. "[State budget plan restores education funds,](#)" *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*, February 8, 2005.

FEDERAL UPDATE

President's proposal includes \$90M increase for teacher professional development in math and science

- Table: [President's high school agenda](#)

IN THE NEWS

Teacher preparation, higher ed

- Washington, T.P. "[College of education prints teaching guide,](#)" *The (New Orleans) Times-Picayune*, January 30, 2005.
- Arenson, K.W. "[CUNY takes steps to draw better students to teaching,](#)" *New York Times*, February 2, 2005.

Alternative routes to teaching

- Snyder, S. "['Boot camp' teachers ready to fill mid-term vacancies,](#)" *Philadelphia Inquirer*, February 7, 2005.
- Snyder, S. "[New teachers chalk up first day to experience,](#)" *Philadelphia Inquirer*, February 9, 2005.

Teacher certification and licensure

- Pope, J. "[Teachers will get help to be certified,](#)" *The (New Orleans) Times-Picayune*, January 28, 2005.

Teacher recruitment

- Davis, G. "[Schools see looming staff retirements.](#)" *Baltimore Sun*, February 9, 2005.
- Cho, H. "[Teachers get lessons in finding a home.](#)" *Baltimore Sun*, January 30, 2005.

Teacher hiring

- DeArmond, M., & Goldhaber, D. "[COMMENTARY: The back office: The neglected side of teacher quality.](#)" *Education Week*, February 9, 2005.

Teacher assignment

- Boone, D. "[D.M. aims to better student skills.](#)" *Des Moines Register*, February 1, 2005.

Teacher retention

- Throckmorton, T. "[OPINION: Save money by retaining teachers.](#)" *Kansas City Star*, February 7, 2005.

Teacher support, mentoring, coaching

- Gao, H. "[San Diego schools scrap teacher-leader policy for coming year.](#)" *San Diego Tribune*, February 10, 2005.
- Dodd, D.A. "[TEACHING: 'Peer coaching' hones classroom skills.](#)" *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, February 1, 2005.

Teacher evaluation

- *San Francisco Chronicle* editorial staff. "[OPINION: Testing teachers.](#)" *San Francisco Chronicle*, January 31, 2005.

Teacher testing

- Fry, E. "[Union objects to testing teachers.](#)" *Juneau Empire*, February 4, 2005.

Also:

- Associated Press. "[Teachers union balks at test plan.](#)" *Anchorage Daily News*, February 5, 2005.
- Hale, R. "[OPINION: State needs to ensure teacher competency.](#)" *Juneau Empire*, February 6, 2005.

Professional development

- Hetzner, A. "[Teacher certification: Falls program aims to test, inspire instructors.](#)" *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*, January 22, 2005.
- LeBlanc, S. "[Looming court ruling sets stage for education reform.](#)" *Boston Globe/Associated Press*, February 3, 2005.
- Fajen, M. "[Better teaching with technology.](#)" *Des Moines Register*, February 8, 2005.
- Thompson, L. "[Partnership lightens educators' load.](#)" *Seattle Times*, February 9, 2005.
- Davenport, P. "[English-learning case won by state.](#)" *Arizona Republic/Associated Press*, February 10, 2005.
- Diamond, L. "[The art of teaching science.](#)" *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, February 13, 2005.

Working conditions

- Groat, T. [“OPINION: The challenges of an overcrowded classroom,”](#) *Chicago Tribune*, January 28, 2005.
- Herszenhorn, D.M. [“Teachers protest the methods of a regional superintendent,”](#) *New York Times*, February 4, 2005.
- Vozzella, L., & Loh, L. [“O’Malley seeks duty of schools’ upkeep,”](#) *Baltimore Sun*, February 7, 2005.
- Asimov, N. [“Students to rally over lack of notices; Procedures not posted on how to complain of school conditions,”](#) *San Francisco Chronicle*, February 7, 2005.
- Zaragoza, L. [“School repair funds go unused,”](#) *The (San Jose) Mercury News*, February 9, 2005.
- Dell’Angela, T. [“City schools go after overcrowded classes,”](#) *Chicago Tribune*, February 9, 2005.
- Knight, H. [“College-prep teachers upset by threatened loss of extra period,”](#) *San Francisco Chronicle*, February 10, 2005.

Teacher and principal compensation, incentives

- Pugmire, T. [“Governor’s education budget pushes changes in teacher pay,”](#) *Minnesota Public Radio*, January 13, 2005.
- *Mercury News* editorial staff. [“OPINION: An obstacle to reform,”](#) *The (San Jose) Mercury News*, January 30, 2005.
- McGuire, L. [“Hundreds of teachers lobby Texas lawmakers,”](#) *Dallas Morning News*, January 31, 2005.
- Pugmire, T. [“Waseca schools break new ground in teacher pay,”](#) *Minnesota Public Radio*, February 1, 2005.
- Gerstner, L., Jr. [“OPINION: Money plus merit equals better teachers,”](#) *Detroit News*, February 1, 2005.
- Stutz, T. [“Will teacher merit pay make the grade?”](#) *Dallas Morning News*, February 2, 2005.
- Lynn, R. [“Bill would boost pay for new teachers,”](#) *Salt Lake Tribune*, February 2, 2005.
- Bakst, B. [“Teachers warm to idea of performance pay,”](#) *Boston Globe*, February 8, 2005.

Also:

- Bakst, B. [“Teachers warm to idea of performance pay,”](#) *Washington Post/Associated Press*, February 8, 2005.
- Carroll, H. [“Teachers’ pay tops agenda,”](#) *Richmond Times Dispatch*, February 8, 2005.
- Mathews, J. [“For elite U.S. teachers, cachet and more cash,”](#) *Washington Post*, February 8, 2005, A10.

Also:

- Mathews, J. [“For elite teachers, national certification provides cachet – and cash,”](#) *Detroit News/Washington Post*, February 12, 2005.

- Hughes, K. [“At new elementary, teachers will be paid for good work.”](#) *Dallas Morning News*, February 9, 2005.
- Mitchell, N. [“Foundations pledge funds for ProComp.”](#) *Rocky Mountain News*, February 9, 2005.
- Salzer, J. [“Legislature '05: Raises for certified teachers targeted.”](#) *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, February 10, 2005.
- Lynn, R. [“Teacher pay raise clears the House.”](#) *Salt Lake Tribune*, February 11, 2005.

Teacher turnover

- Dell'Angela, T. [“Inner-city teachers' turnover is charted.”](#) *Chicago Tribune*, February 14, 2005.

Teachers of hard-to-fill subjects and specializations

- Lynn, R. [“Teachers licensing in critical areas may get tuition aid.”](#) *Salt Lake Tribune*, February 2, 2005.

Highly qualified tutors

- Dell'Angela, T. [“School tutoring standoff ends.”](#) *Chicago Tribune*, January 31, 2005.
- Toomey, S. [“Deal with state keeps 40,000 kids in CPS tutoring program.”](#) *Chicago Sun-Times*, January 31, 2005.
- Gewertz, C. [“Chicago, Ed. Dept. settle tutoring dispute.”](#) *Education Week*, February 9, 2005.

Rehiring retired teachers and principals

- Barbier, S. [“Retirement policy extended to teachers.”](#) *The (New Orleans) Times-Picayune*, January 29, 2005.

Teacher quality

- Bast, J.L. [“OPINION: Give the teachers power and watch schools improve.”](#) *Chicago Tribune*, February 8, 2005

RECENT BOOKS, ARTICLES, AND REPORTS

Teacher standards

- [What the United States Can Learn from Singapore's World-Class Mathematics System \(and What Singapore Can Learn from the United States\): An Exploratory Study](#)
Ginsburg, A., Leinwand, S., Anstrom, T., & Pollock, E., American Institutes for Research, January 2005, 192 pp.
 - Cavanagh, S. [“Researchers cite uniform standards in Singapore's success.”](#) *Education Week*, February 9, 2005.

Teacher assignment

- [Inside the Black Box of High-Performing High-Poverty Schools](#)
Kannapel, P., & Clements, S., with Taylor, D., & Hibpshman, T., Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, February 2005, 32 pp.

- *Herald-Leader* staff. "[Secrets to helping poor children learn.](#)" *Lexington Herald-Leader*, February 8, 2005.
- Hoff, D. "[Ky. study finds similarities between good schools.](#)" *Education Week*, February 9, 2005.

Teacher retention

- [School's Out](#)
Graziano, C., *Edutopia*, 3, February 2005

Leadership

- [The Power of Teacher Leadership](#) (abstract – scroll down)
Berry, B., Johnson, D., & Montgomery, D., *Educational Leadership*, 62(5), February 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.

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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