



Teacher Quality and Improvement

e-Newsletter of the CCSSO Teacher Quality Network

October 14, 2004, Vol. 1, No. 13

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/TQINewsletter14Oct.pdf>. The PDF version of the previous issue is available at <http://www.ccsso.org/content/pdfs/TQINewsletter01Oct.pdf>.

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

SOME OF THE TOP STORIES

By closing lender loopholes, Congress frees up potential \$270-285M to pay off student loans for math, science, special ed teachers in high-poverty schools

- Winter, G. "[Congress passes bill to tighten lending rules.](#)" *New York Times*, October 12, 2004.
- Cavanagh, S. "[Federal subsidies to student lenders come under fire.](#)" *Education Week*, October 13, 2004.
- Fitzgerald, M. "[Student loan bill criticized.](#)" *Washington Post*, October 13, 2004, A09.

Update: Philadelphia district and teachers' union considering compromise that would allow principals to select half of teachers

- Keller, B. "[Few teachers' strikes mark U.S. landscape.](#)" *Education Week*, October 6, 2004.
- Snyder, S. "[Teacher contract talks inch forward.](#)" *Philadelphia Inquirer*, October 7, 2004.
- Snyder, S. "[Compromise in air as talks bring Phila. teacher contract close.](#)" *Philadelphia Inquirer*, October 12, 2004.
- Snyder, S. "[Details come into focus on proposed teachers contract.](#)" *Philadelphia Inquirer*, October 13, 2004.
- Russ, V. "[Teachers to vote on tentative pact tonight.](#)" *Philadelphia Daily News*, October 14, 2004.

- Snyder, S. [“Teachers’ deal: Both sides yielded.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, October 14, 2004.

FEDERAL UPDATE

- Murray, C. [“ED unveils new educator training site.”](#) *eSchool News online*, October 7, 2004.
 - USDE’s [Teacher-to-Teacher Workshops](#) website
- Keller, B. [“Teacher-workshop information available on Ed. Dept. site.”](#) *Education Week*, October 13, 2004.
- [President Bush Announces New Education Proposals](#)
U.S. Department of Education, *The Achiever*, 3(14), October 1, 2004
- The White House. [“Strengthening education and job training opportunities.”](#) Press release, September 2, 2004.

Teaching quality initiatives:

“Extra Incentives for Teachers with Increases in Student Achievement.

President Bush proposed a \$500 million incentive fund for states and school districts that choose to reward teachers who demonstrate success in preparing their students through increases in student achievement. The Fund would serve two goals: rewarding effective teachers teaching in schools most in need; and rewarding effective teachers in schools that are top performers in closing the achievement gap and are meeting the annual targets of the No Child Left Behind Act.”

“Mathematics and Science Partnership Program. The President has proposed a \$120 million increase for the Mathematics and Science Partnership program authorized in the No Child Left Behind Act. The increase supports direct, Federal competitive grants to partnerships to increase achievement in mathematics for secondary students. The new 3-year competitive grants would support projects that have significant potential to accelerate the mathematics achievement of all secondary students, but especially low-achieving students. The initiative would focus on ensuring that states and school districts implement professional development projects for mathematics teachers that are strongly grounded in research and that help mathematics teachers strengthen their skills.”

“Improved Advanced Placement. President Bush has proposed a \$28 million increase for the Advanced Placement program authorized in the No Child Left Behind Act, bringing spending to nearly \$52 million per year. The increase in funding will help ensure that teachers in low-income schools are well-trained to teach Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) courses. Advanced Placement programs not only encourage the growth of AP and IB courses, but also serve as a mechanism for upgrading the entire high school curriculum for all students.”

“Adjunct Teacher Corps: Bringing Experience into the Classroom. The President has proposed a new \$40 million initiative to provide competitive grants to school

district partnerships with public-private institutions to create the Adjunct Teacher Corps, with opportunities for professionals to teach middle and high school courses in the core academic subjects, particularly in mathematics and science. Many school districts need personnel to strengthen instruction in middle and high schools in the core academic subjects, especially mathematics and science. The Adjunct Teacher Corps would help alleviate this critical situation by bringing professionals with subject-matter knowledge and experience into the classroom.”

IN THE NEWS

Teacher certification and licensure

- Murphy, J. [“325,000 teachers’ licenses to lapse.”](#) *The (Harrisburg, Penn.) Patriot-News*, October 4, 2004.
- McCarron, B. [“Teachers held up by state’s logjam.”](#) *The (Newark) Star-Ledger*, October 5, 2004.
- Associated Press. [“N.J. rushes to issue teaching certificates.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, October 6, 2004.
- McCarron, B. [“McGreevey orders relief for educators.”](#) *The (Newark) Star-Ledger*, October 13, 2004.

Alternative routes to teaching

- [Troops to Teachers newsletter](#), *TTT Connections*, 1(1), September 2004
- Hooper, K. [“For others, teaching brings rewards.”](#) *Indianapolis Star*, October 10, 2004.
- Gammill, A. [“Chemist is on a mission to inspire his students.”](#) *Indianapolis Star*, October 10, 2004.
- Letters to the editor. [“OPINION: Teach for America: Not alone in retention woes.”](#) *Education Week*, October 13, 2004.

Teacher hiring

- Carter, S. [“Hope expressed for agreement with teachers by next week.”](#) *The Oregonian*, September 25, 2004.
- Mezzacappa, D. [“Pa. sees dire needs in Chester Upland district.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, October 6, 2004.
- Rossi, R. [“Record number of teachers apply for public school jobs.”](#) *Chicago Sun-Times*, October 14, 2004.
- Mitchell, N. [“Few minority teachers hired.”](#) *Rocky Mountain News*, October 14, 2004.

Teacher assignment, distribution

- Herszenhorn, D. [“For teachers’ union and mayor, talks on contract near accord.”](#) *New York Times*, October 14, 2004.

Recruitment and retention

- Shores, K. [“Broward battles teacher loss by recruiting local high school students.”](#) *Chicago Tribune/South Florida Sun Sentinel*, October 3, 2004.
- Theil, L. [“Course educates aspiring teachers.”](#) *Detroit News*, October 5, 2004.

Novice teachers and principals

- Mooney, J. "[Fresh faces, new concerns for N.J. schools.](#)" *The (Newark) Star-Ledger*, October 3, 2004.
- Zorn, E. "[1st-year teachers are left adrift in Chicago schools.](#)" *Chicago Tribune*, October 7, 2004.

Veteran teachers

- Borders, D.G. "[Veteran teachers: The linchpin of school reform.](#)" *Education Week*, October 6, 2004.

Mentoring, induction, coaching

- Rubin, J. "[Teachers see themselves as the camera sees them.](#)" *Los Angeles Times*, October 13, 2004.

Professional development

☆ **To teach academic content**

- Ataiyero, K. "[School science gets a boost.](#)" *The (Raleigh, N.C.) News & Observer*, October 6, 2004.
- Cavanagh, S. "[Boston partnership to focus on improving science teaching.](#)" *Education Week*, October 13, 2004.

Teacher and principal compensation, incentives

- Knight, H. "[Teachers could get break on housing if plan gets go-ahead.](#)" *San Francisco Chronicle*, October 8, 2004.
- Draper, N. "[Pawlenty plan to give schools power.](#)" *The (Minneapolis) Star Tribune*, October 14, 2004.

Teacher transfers

- May, H. "[Fifth-year teacher loves her work too much to quit.](#)" *Salt Lake Tribune*, October 4, 2004.

Teachers of hard-to-fill subjects

- Okoben, J. "[Most teachers recruited in India thrive and stay with Cleveland.](#)" *The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer*, October 6, 2004.

Teaching quality in hard-to-staff schools

- Harrison, S. "[Broward charter school at risk of being closed.](#)" *Miami Herald*, October 10, 2004.

Rural staff shortages

- Davis, M. "[Rural schools in need of guidance, GAO says.](#)" *Education Week*, October 6, 2004.
- Kingsbury, A. "[Remote access.](#)" *U.S. News & World Report*, October 18, 2004.

Rehiring retired teachers and principals

- Rockoff, J. "[School leaders urge state to allow rehiring of retirees.](#)" *Baltimore Sun*, October 13, 2004.

Research on teaching

- Viadero, D. [“Teaching mathematics requires special set of skills,”](#) *Education Week*, October 13, 2004.

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

- Yettick, H. [“Highly qualified teachers,”](#) *Rocky Mountain News*, October 14, 2004.

RECENT BOOKS, ARTICLES, AND REPORTS

Teacher and principal preparation, higher ed

- [Who’s in Charge Here? The Changing Landscape of Teacher Preparation in America](#)
Coble, C., Edelfelt, R., & Kettlewell, J., *Education Commission of the States*, September 2004, 20 pp.
- [No Time to Waste: The Vital Role of College and University Leaders in Improving Science and Mathematics Education](#)
Sanders, T., *Education Commission of the States*, October 2004, 14 pp.

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