



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/TQINewsletter16Sep.pdf>. The PDF version of the previous issue is available at <http://www.ccsso.org/content/pdfs/TQINewsletter31Aug04.pdf>.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Study of states' implementation of accountability and teacher quality under NCLB

The Council of Chief State School Officers is working in partnership with the American Institutes for Research to evaluate how states are implementing the accountability and teacher quality provisions of NCLB. This 4-year project is funded by the U.S. Department of Education, and is being conducted as part of the Congressionally-mandated National Assessment of Title I. CCSSO has been assisting with the project by providing state data on accountability and assessments and by helping design telephone surveys of state education agency officials. AIR and REDA International will be conducting these surveys this fall, and will be contacting each state individually to schedule these at your convenience. If you would like further information about the study, please contact Rolf Blank about accountability (rolfb@ccsso.org, 202-336-7044) or Cindy Prince about teacher quality (cindyp@ccsso.org, 202-312-6868). Many thanks to all SEA staff who participated in the pilot surveys.

SOME OF THE TOP STORIES

North Carolina policymakers consider plans to assign teachers according to student need

- Simmons, T. "[Battle's on over best teachers; Plan: Pair teachers, students.](#)" *The (Raleigh, N.C.) News & Observer*, September 5, 2004.
- Associated Press. "[N.C. schools begin steps to pair best teachers with neediest students.](#)" *Charleston (S.C.) Post and Courier*, September 8, 2004.

States and districts try new teacher pay-for-performance plans

★ Delaware

- Besso, M. "[Christina unveils school reform plan.](#)" *The (Delaware) News Journal*, August 25, 2004.
- Davis, M. "[News in Brief: A State Capitals Roundup – Teacher-evaluation plan unlikely to fly in Delaware.](#)" *Education Week*, September 1, 2004. (scroll down)
- Besso, M. "[Teacher pay plan remains tough sell.](#)" *The (Delaware) News Journal*, September 9, 2004.

★ Minnesota

- Minnesota Department of Education. "[Governor Pawlenty ushers in new alternative teacher pay program in Minneapolis and Waseca.](#)" Press release, September 13, 2004.
- Draper, N. "[State will test teacher merit pay.](#)" *The (Minneapolis) Star Tribune*, September 14, 2004.
- Salisbury, B. "[Teachers are trying out performance pay system.](#)" *The (St. Paul, Minn.) Pioneer Press*, September 14, 2004.

★ Anne Arundel County, Maryland

- Kay, L. "[Teacher bonuses tied to dedication.](#)" *Baltimore Sun*, September 13, 2004.

★ New Orleans area

- Waller, M. "[Schools ante up for teachers who really make the grade.](#)" *The (New Orleans) Times-Picayune*, September 14, 2004.

★ Chicago metropolitan area

- Hamill, S. "[Board okays teacher pact.](#)" *Chicago Tribune*, September 15, 2004.

Alternative certificate will allow experienced teachers in Pa. to skip subject-matter tests

- Mezzacappa, D. "[No Child law 'bridge' is planned.](#)" *Philadelphia Inquirer*, September 16, 2004.
- Mezzacappa, D. "[Teacher-test alternative is approved.](#)" *Philadelphia Inquirer*, September 17, 2004

Update: Potential changes to seniority-based transfers still undecided in Philadelphia

- Woodall, M. "[Current school contract extended.](#)" *Philadelphia Inquirer*, September 1, 2004.
- Mezzacappa, D. "[Teacher assignments key to contract negotiations.](#)" *Philadelphia Inquirer*, September 2, 2004.
 - [Highlights of the contract proposal](#)
- Mezzacappa, D. "[Chief of school panel wants historic shift.](#)" *Philadelphia Inquirer*, September 3, 2004.
- Dean, M. "[Students, teachers standing tall at Stanton.](#)" *Philadelphia Daily News*, September 8, 2004.

- Gewertz, C. [“Collective bargaining bumping up against No Child Left Behind law.”](#) *Education Week*, September 8, 2004.
- Mezzacappa, D. [“Union leader stays true to his roots.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, September 8, 2004.
- Snyder, S. [“Teachers demonstrate early, then welcome their classes.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, September 8, 2004.
- Snyder, S. [“Progress seen in teacher talks.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, September 9, 2004.
- Dean, M. [“Another extension seen for teacher contract talks.”](#) *Philadelphia Daily News*, September 10, 2004.
- *Philadelphia Daily News* staff. [“OPINION: A senior moment for teacher’s union.”](#) *Philadelphia Daily News*, September 15, 2004.

Study finds students of National Board Certified Teachers made greater achievement gains than peers taught by non-NBCTs

- [National Board Certified Teachers and their Students’ Achievement](#)
Vandevoort, L., Amrein-Beardsley, A., & Berliner, D., *Education Policy Analysis Archives*, 12(46), September 8, 2004
- [Another study finds National Board Certified Teachers increase student achievement](#)
Southeast Center for Teaching Quality
- Manzo, K.K. [“Ariz. study sees benefits in National Board certification.”](#) *Education Week*, September 15, 2004.

FEDERAL UPDATE

USDE reports states making progress on some teacher quality reforms

- [Meeting the Highly Qualified Teachers Challenge: The Secretary’s Third Annual Report on Teacher Quality](#)
U.S. Department of Education, 67 pp., July 2004
- Manzo, K.K. [“States making some gains in teacher quality, study says.”](#) *Education Week*, September 8, 2004.

IN THE NEWS

Teacher and principal preparation, higher ed

- Archer, J. [“Scholarly Citings: Principals’ training goes under a microscope.”](#) *Education Week*, September 8, 2004.
- Bradley, A. [“News in Brief: A National Roundup – Charter education schools.”](#) *Education Week*, September 8, 2004. (*scroll down*)
- Ramirez, C. [“Would-be teachers learn ropes.”](#) *Arizona Republic*, September 9, 2004.

- Archer, J. [“La. eyes linking pupil results, teacher training.”](#) *Education Week*, September 15, 2004.
- Louisiana Board of Regents. [“Teacher education initiatives: Value-Added Teacher Preparation Program Assessment Model.”](#)
- Louisiana Board of Regents. [“New teacher preparation effectiveness model detailed for Regents.”](#) Press release, August 25, 2004.
- Viadero, D. [“Scholars square off over bias in teacher-training content.”](#) *Education Week*, September 15, 2004.

Teacher certification and licensure

- Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. [“PI 34 pilot elevates professional growth.”](#) *SEAchange Online*, 3(21), August 27, 2004.

Alternative routes to teaching

- American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence. [“American Board heralds its inaugural class of certified teachers in Idaho and Pennsylvania.”](#) Press release, June 29, 2004.
- Silberman, T. [“Program brings world to N.C. pupils.”](#) *The (Raleigh, N.C.) News & Observer*, September 1, 2004.
- Burney, M. [“Fresh-faced, eager, and at school early.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, September 2, 2004.

Recruitment and retention

- Gammill, A. [“School employees find child-care help close by.”](#) *Indianapolis Star*, September 15, 2004.
- Hoover, T. [“It’s tough in classrooms, teachers tell lawmakers.”](#) *Kansas City Star*, September 15, 2004.
- Dean, M. [“Residency mandate rescinded.”](#) *Philadelphia Daily News*, September 16, 2004.

Novice teachers and principals

- Bhatt, S. [“Taught to be principals: New principals join students returning to school.”](#) *Seattle Times*, September 8, 2004.
- Gootman, E. [“Taught to be principals, and now facing the test.”](#) *New York Times*, September 8, 2004.

Mentoring, induction, coaching

- Mitchell, N. [“Program aimed at attracting teachers to NE Denver.”](#) *Rocky Mountain News*, September 10, 2004.

Professional development

- Keller, B. [“Under new leaders, changes anticipated for Chicago’s union.”](#) *Education Week*, September 1, 2004.
- Hartocollis, A. [“Calendar quirks and teacher training translate into slow start for schools.”](#) *New York Times*, September 8, 2004.
- Keller, B. [“Model districts embed professional-development schools in system.”](#) *Education Week*, September 15, 2004.

☆ **To teach diverse groups of students**

- Gewertz, C. [“Urban odyssey,”](#) *Education Week*, September 1, 2004.
- Hannah-Jones, N. [“Schools, students work to lower language barriers,”](#) *The (Raleigh, N.C.) News & Observer*, September 8, 2004.
- AEL, Inc. “Region IV Comprehensive Center works with educators of English language learners.”
 - [Summary](#)
 - [Full report](#), 16 pp.
- Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. [“Wisconsin educators travel to Thailand and Laos,”](#) *SEAchange Online*, 3(16), May 31, 2004.
- Essex, G. [“Thailand impressions,”](#) *SEAchange Online*, 3(19), July 23, 2004.
- Essex, G. [“Impressions from Thailand,”](#) *SEAchange Online*, 3(20), August 10, 2004.

☆ **To teach academic content**

- Star Tribune staff. [“Medtronic aids St. Paul schools in science plan,”](#) *The (Minneapolis) Star Tribune*, September 14, 2004.

Teacher and principal compensation, incentives

- Russell, J. [“Teacher salaries going begging,”](#) *San Antonio Express-News*, August 26, 2004.
- Manzo, K.K. [“Study finds teachers are losing ground on salary front,”](#) *Education Week*, September 1, 2004.
- Richard, A. [“Capitol Recap: Florida – Modest K-12 increase goes to smaller classes,”](#) *Education Week*, September 1, 2004. (scroll down)

Working conditions

☆ **Administrative support, leadership**

- Archer, J. [“Major study to identify what good leaders do right,”](#) *Education Week*, September 8, 2004.
- Archer, J. [“Tackling an impossible job,”](#) *Education Week*, September 15, 2004.

Teacher turnover

- Massey, J. [“Teachers quitting over stalled contract talks,”](#) *Boston Globe*, September 5, 2004.

Teachers of hard-to-fill subjects

- University of Texas at Austin. [“Collaborative program offered by colleges of Natural Sciences and Education helps science, math teachers in public schools earn advanced degrees.”](#) Press release, August 31, 2004.

Rural staff shortages

- Hannah, J. [“Shortage of school psychologists in Ohio,”](#) *Boston Globe*, September 6, 2004.

Also:

- Associated Press. [“School psychologist shortage has impact,”](#) *CNN.com*, September 6, 2004.

- Hardy, M. [“Rural schools in South cited,”](#) *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, September 14, 2004.

Paraprofessionals

- Buote, B. [“Teacher’s aides get helping hand,”](#) *Boston Globe*, September 9, 2004.

Rehiring retired teachers and principals

- Stutz, T. [“Retired teachers help fill vacancies,”](#) *Dallas Morning News*, September 8, 2004.

RECENT BOOKS, ARTICLES, AND REPORTS

Teacher preparation, higher ed

- [“The Foundations of Preparing Teachers: Are Education Schools Really “Intellectually Barren” and Ideological?”](#)
Butin, D., *Teachers College Record*, Article ID number 11349, July 24, 2004

Alternative routes to teaching

- [“A New Breed of Teachers”](#)
Williams, D., *Catalyst Chicago*, September 2004
- [“CPS \(Chicago Public Schools\) Alternative Certification Programs”](#)
Catalyst Chicago, September 2004
- [“Teach for America on Hot Seat”](#)
Williams, D., *Catalyst Chicago*, September 2004
- [“Experience Helps Career-Changers Reach Manley Students”](#)
Williams, D., *Catalyst Chicago*, September 2004
- [“No Consensus on Pros, Cons”](#)
Duffrin, E., *Catalyst Chicago*, September 2004

Professional development

- [“Meeting the Need for High Quality Teachers: e-Learning Solutions”](#)
Kleiman, G., Education Development Center, Inc., prepared for U.S. Department of Education Leadership Summit, July 2004, 14 pp.
- [“Standards for Online Professional Development”](#)
Griffin, D., Southern Regional Education Board, September 2004, 8 pp.

Working conditions

- *Listening to Teachers: Classroom Realities and No Child Left Behind*
Sunderman, G., Tracey, C., Kim, J., & Orfield, G., Harvard Civil Rights Project, September 2004
 - [Press release and executive summary](#)
 - [Full report](#), 49 pp.

Teacher turnover

- [Teacher Attrition and Mobility: Results from the Teacher Follow-up Survey, 2000-01](#)
Chandler, K., U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, NCES 2004-301, August 2004, 83 pp.
- Bushweller, K. ["Report Roundup: Teacher attrition,"](#) *Education Week*, September 8, 2004. (*scroll down*)

Teaching quality in hard-to-staff schools

- [Teams for Top Teachers](#)
The Joyce Foundation, *Work in Progress*, September 2004, pp. 8-10
- [Netting an Elusive Breed](#)
Warner, M., *Education Next*, Fall 2004, 6 pp.

Substitute teacher quality

- [Winning the Substitute Game](#)
Ezarik, M., *District Administration*, July 2004

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

- [All Dried Up](#)
LaFee, S., *California Schools*, California School Boards Association, Fall 2004

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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