



# 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/TQINewsletter20July06.pdf>. All previous issues are posted on the CCSSO website at [http://www.ccsso.org/whats\\_new/newsletters/teacher\\_quality\\_and\\_improvement/index.cfm](http://www.ccsso.org/whats_new/newsletters/teacher_quality_and_improvement/index.cfm).

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## SOME OF THE TOP STORIES

### **New York City dismisses more than 800 teachers who failed to obtain permanent licenses, despite repeated warnings**

- Andreatta, D. ["825 city teachers expelled,"](#) *New York Post*, July 10, 2006.
- United Press International. ["NYC fires 825 uncertified teachers,"](#) *UPI.com*, July 10, 2006.

### **DC Schools may need to hire up to 750 teachers – many of them in math and special ed – to replace retirees and uncertified teachers dismissed at the end of the school year**

- Haynes, V.D. ["City strives to fill teaching positions,"](#) *Washington Post*, July 9, 2006, C06.
- Associated Press. ["District schools have plenty of vacancies to fill,"](#) *WTOP News (Washington, DC)*, July 9, 2006.

### **NYC's housing incentives attract nearly 140 applicants to teach hard-to-fill subjects in high-need middle and high schools**

- Toosi, N. ["NYC schools housing subsidies attracting plenty of teachers,"](#) *Newsday/Associated Press*, July 11, 2006.

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**New lottery-funded scholarship program in Tennessee will provide up to \$10,000 to help teachers earn advanced degrees in math or science**

- Legge, J. "[Lottery scholarships for teachers.](#)" *WDEF News (Chattanooga, TN)*, July 17, 2006.
- Tennessee General Assembly, [Public Chapter Number 977](#), approved June 27, 2006.

**Grant enables Oregon State to create partnership between university scientists and local teachers to improve K-12 science curriculum**

- Lont, S. "[\\$1.5-million grant to strengthen science education in Oregon.](#)" *The (Medford, OR) News*, July 17, 2006.

**University of Texas at El Paso, local charter school receive nearly \$2M to train teachers, develop math and science curricula and lesson plans, and attract highly-qualified teachers**

- Reveles Acosta, G. "[City to get nearly \\$2 million for science education.](#)" *El Paso Times*, July 18, 2006.

**FEDERAL UPDATE**

**USDE questions accuracy of Virginia's highly-qualified teacher data**

- Associated Press. "[Federal officials warn Virginia to improve teacher standards.](#)" *The Daily Press (Hampton Roads, VA)/The Virginian-Pilot (Hampton Roads, VA)*, July 7, 2006.
- Fernandes, D. "[Va. must improve teacher standards, or lose federal funding.](#)" *The Virginian-Pilot (Hampton Roads, VA)*, July 8, 2006.
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- Prestidge, H. "[State teacher ratings faulted.](#)" *The (Richmond, VA) Times-Dispatch*, July 11, 2006.

**USDE awards 20 Transition to Teaching grants to support alternative routes to teaching in 9 states**

- U.S. Department of Education. "[Nearly \\$8 million for 20 grants awarded to help recruit, train and retain new teachers.](#)" Press release, July 13, 2006.
- *Tennessean* staff. "[State briefs: Funds to help educators' credentials.](#)" *The Tennessean*, July 12, 2006.
- Richmond, W. "[Demand for teachers spurs new partnership.](#)" *The (Fall River, MA) Herald News*, July 17, 2006.

## IN THE NEWS

### Teacher preparation, higher ed

- Davis, L. [“Napa college program gives new teachers a boost.”](#) *The Napa Valley (CA) Register*, July 10, 2006.
- Sampson, H. [“High school kids given incentives to be teachers.”](#) *Miami Herald*, July 10, 2006.
- *Smoky Mountain Sentinel* staff. [“TCCC to offer new education degree.”](#) *The (Haynesville, NC) Smoky Mountain Sentinel*, July 12, 2006.
- Keller, B. [“Teacher-education accrediting group’s numbers up to 20.”](#) *Education Week*, July 12, 2006.
- Kennedy Manzo, K. [“After complaint, teacher council changes rating.”](#) *Education Week*, July 12, 2006.
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- Pennsylvania State University. [“College of Education building research programs for better teachers.”](#) News release, July 14, 2006.
- Rouse, K. [“State’s teacher programs told to cover 5 reading elements.”](#) *Denver Post*, July 17, 2006.
- Edgecomb, M. [“Future science teachers test dirty lake water.”](#) *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle*, July 20, 2006.

### Teacher certification and licensure

- Scott, C. [“Certification = Quality?”](#) *The (Hampton Roads, VA) Daily Press*, July 10, 2006.
- Honawar, V. [“Report roundup: Teacher certification.”](#) *Education Week*, July 12, 2006.
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- Associated Press. [“Arapaho elders learn to teach.”](#) *Billings (MT) Gazette*, July 19, 2006.
- Letters to the editor. [“OPINION: Benefits of national teacher certification.”](#) *The Daily Press (Hampton Roads, VA)*, July 19, 2006.
- Denison, D. [“Teachers of gifted students get training.”](#) *Washington Examiner*, July 20, 2006.
- Johnson, T. [“State to look into special certification for teachers.”](#) *Washington Examiner*, July 20, 2006.

### Alternative routes to teaching

- Bernet, B. [“Education briefs: Texas Tech University.”](#) *The Amarillo (TX) Globe News*, July 8, 2006.
- Hirsch, D. [“Career changers help fill classes.”](#) *Charlotte Observer*, July 9, 2006.
- American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE)/*Yahoo! Finance*, [“Mississippi launches effort to attract career changers to teaching.”](#) Press release, July 12, 2006.

## Teacher recruitment, hiring

- Richmond, E. [“The recruiter.”](#) *Las Vegas Sun*, June 11, 2006.
- Marshall, T. [“County still needs teachers.”](#) *St. Petersburg Times*, July 8, 2006.
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- Hall Blobaum, M. [“Wanted: qualified teachers.”](#) *Kansas City Star*, July 12, 2006.
- Ritea, S. [“Schools could be short on teachers.”](#) *The (New Orleans) Times-Picayune*, July 13, 2006.
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- Rose, J. [“Utah schools desperate for teachers.”](#) *KCPW News (Salt Lake City)*, July 18, 2006.
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- Babiarz, L. [“Sarasota County stops hiring teachers.”](#) *The (Sarasota, FL) Herald Tribune*, July 8, 2006.

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- Live Chat Transcript, *Education Week*, July 19, 2006: [Principal turnover: The challenges of finding and keeping good principals](#)

## Teacher mentoring, induction, support, coaching

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☆ **To teach foreign languages**

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- Nylen, L. [“Teachers get tech-savvy.”](#) *The Daily News Record (Harrisonburg, VA)*, July 20, 2006.

**Teacher evaluation, effectiveness**

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- Finley, N. [“OPINION: Pay more to keep brightest teachers.”](#) *Detroit News*, July 16, 2006.

☆ **Nevada**

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

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☆ **Special education teachers**

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**Teachers in high-poverty, low-performing, and hard-to-staff schools**

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## RECENT BOOKS, ARTICLES, AND REPORTS

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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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