



# 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 [cindyprince@ccsso.org](mailto:cindyprince@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/TQINewsletter24Nov.pdf>. The PDF version of the previous issue is available at <http://www.ccsso.org/content/pdfs/TQINewsletter11Nov.pdf>.

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## SOME OF THE TOP STORIES

### **Congress gives new special ed teachers more time to show they are highly qualified in multiple subjects, but veterans must still meet requirements by 2005-06**

- Feller, B. "[Congress ready to update special ed law.](#)" *Boston Globe/Associated Press*, November 16, 2004.
- Feller, B. "[Congress agrees to update laws on special education.](#)" *Detroit News/Associated Press*, November 17, 2004.
- Letter to the editor. "[OPINION: Special ed. teachers face 'No Child' complications.](#)" *Education Week*, November 17, 2004.
- Feller, B. "[Changes proposed in education law.](#)" *Hartford Courant/Associated Press*, November 18, 2004.
- Feller, B. "[Congress approves update of special education rules.](#)" *Detroit News/Associated Press*, November 20, 2004.
- Feller, B. "[Congress approves revisions to special education mandates.](#)" *San Diego Union-Tribune/Associated Press*, November 20, 2004.
- Samuels, C., & Robelen, E. "[Congress passes IDEA reauthorization.](#)" *Education Week*, November 22, 2004.
- Samuels, C. "[Congress on verge of reauthorizing special ed. law.](#)" *Education Week*, November 24, 2004.

### **Wyoming discusses merit pay plan for teachers, other salary increases**

- Wyoming Department of Education. [“Blankenship proposes Teacher Excellence Package.”](#) Press release, September 8, 2004.
- Barron, J. [“Teacher pay plan gets mixed reaction.”](#) *Casper Star Tribune*, November 11, 2004.
- Barron, J. [“Dozen school districts like merit pay idea.”](#) *Casper Star Tribune*, November 19, 2004.

### **Texas business leaders propose changes to teacher compensation system**

- [From Good to Great: The Next Phase in Improving Texas Public Schools](#)  
Governor’s Business Council, November 2004, 16 pp.
- Stutz, T. [“Gov. considers education overhaul.”](#) *Dallas Morning News*, November 17, 2004.

### **Report concludes that more minority teachers are key to closing the achievement gap**

- [Assessment of Diversity in America’s Teaching Force: A Call to Action](#)  
National Collaborative on Diversity in the Teaching Force, October 2004, 16 pp.
- Associated Press. [“Education groups push for greater diversity in teaching.”](#) *USA Today*, November 9, 2004.
- Associated Press. [“Groups push for diversity among teachers.”](#) *ABC 7 News (Washington, D.C.)*, November 9, 2004.
- Pazzanese, C. [“Area’s non-white teachers scarce: Fixing minority hiring gap seen key to boosting pupil performance.”](#) *Boston Globe*, November 14, 2004.
- Keller, B. [“NCLB imperils minority hiring, group asserts.”](#) *Education Week*, November 17, 2004.
- Navarrette, R. [“OPINION: Recruiting minority teachers needs to become top priority.”](#) *Detroit News*, November 17, 2004.

## **FEDERAL UPDATE**

### **New USDE report examines six alternative teacher certification programs**

- [Innovations in Education: Alternative Routes to Teacher Certification](#)  
U.S. Department of Education, November 2004, 70 pp.
- U.S. Department of Education. [“Six teacher training programs highlighted in new No Child Left Behind publication.”](#) Press release, November 19, 2004.

### **Teacher-to-Teacher Initiative’s summer workshops available online**

- [Online Tool Offers Teacher Training](#)  
U.S. Department of Education, *The Achiever*, 3(17), November 15, 2004

## IN THE NEWS

### Higher education, teacher preparation

- Jones, A. [“State must produce more teachers, officials say.”](#) *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, November 17, 2004.
- Letters to the editor. [“Teacher education.”](#) *Education Week*, November 24, 2004.
- Letters to the editor. [“Teacher-educators belong in school.”](#) *Education Week*, November 24, 2004.

### Teacher certification and licensure

- Cavanagh, S. [“News in Brief: A State Capitals Roundup – License backlog cut.”](#) *Education Week*, November 17, 2004.
- Associated Press. [“State’s ten teacher standards for license renewal.”](#) *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, November 23, 2004.
- Jan, T. [“Simpler rules eyed for teacher licensing.”](#) *Boston Globe*, November 24, 2004.

### Teacher testing

- Keller, B. [“Pa. outlines teacher-test alternatives,”](#) *Education Week*, November 17, 2004.

### Recruitment and retention

- Kuras, A. [“Seminar offers lessons in teaching,”](#) *Detroit News*, November 8, 2004.
- Wyoming Department of Education. [“Department provides districts new recruiting tool.”](#) Press release, November 1, 2004.

### Alternative routes to teaching

- Associated Press. [“Kentucky teachers taking alternative paths to certifications,”](#) *The (Lexington, Ky.) Herald-Leader*, November 15, 2004.
- Rodriguez, N. [“More taking alternative paths to become teachers,”](#) *The (Louisville, Ky.) Courier-Journal*, November 15, 2004.
- Letter to the editor. [“American Board objects to ‘misrepresented facts,’”](#) *Education Week*, November 17, 2004.
- Contreras, R. [“700 more teachers program goal,”](#) *Albuquerque Journal*, November 12, 2004.

### Teacher and principal assignment, distribution

- Keller, B. [“Phila. activists cite lost opportunity on teachers’ pact,”](#) *Education Week*, November 17, 2004.

### Teacher residency rules

- Duncan, A. [“OPINION: Teacher residency is an important requirement,”](#) *Chicago Tribune*, November 15, 2004.

### Mentoring, induction, coaching

- Williams, J. [“New teachers get help from old hands,”](#) *St. Paul Pioneer Press/Associated Press*, November 23, 2004.

## Professional development

### ☆ To teach diverse groups of students

- Stockman, K.J. "[The key to parity: Training teachers,](#)" *The (Fort Wayne, In.) Journal Gazette*, October 17, 2004.

## Teacher and principal compensation, incentives

- Silberman, T. "[Panel will take second look at test scores,](#)" *The (Raleigh, N.C.) News & Observer*, November 12, 2004.
- Jacobson, L. "[News in Brief: A State Capitals Roundup – Plan for merit pay in Conn. faces union opposition,](#)" *Education Week*, November 17, 2004.
- Herszenhorn, D.M. "[Hope dims on deal for teachers pact tied to financing,](#)" *New York Times*, November 14, 2004.
- Moran, C. "[Panel trying to find site for National City campus,](#)" *San Diego Union-Tribune*, November 10, 2004.
- Goddard, B. "[OPINION: UTD proposal gives teachers more work, but not a raise,](#)" *Miami Herald*, November 9, 2004.
- Blackford, L. "[Report ties better pay, quality of teachers,](#)" *The (Lexington, Ky.) Herald-Leader*, November 23, 2004.

## Working conditions

### ☆ Administrative support and leadership

- Burney, M. "[Principal getting results in a struggling school,](#)" *Philadelphia Inquirer*, November 15, 2004.

### ☆ School safety and discipline

- Medina, R. "[Teacher shot with BB gun,](#)" *Philadelphia Daily News*, November 24, 2004.

### ☆ Facilities

#### ☆ Boston

- Jan, T. "[Environmental report details city school ills,](#)" *Boston Globe*, November 19, 2004.

#### ☆ Washington, D.C.

- Strauss, V. "[One school tells a system's torment,](#)" *Washington Post*, November 11, 2004, DZ08.
- Strauss, V. "[Amid disrepair, students 'just can't think',](#)" *Washington Post*, November 18, 2004, DZ10.
- Wagner, A. "[Janey, Fenty tour run-down schools,](#)" *Washington Times*, November 19, 2004.

## Teacher effectiveness, evaluation

- Olson, L. "['Value added' models gain in popularity,](#)" *Education Week*, November 17, 2004.
- Olson, L. "[Researchers debate merits of 'value added' measures,](#)" *Education Week*, November 17, 2004.

## Teacher and principal turnover

- Snyder, S. "[Principal turnover is a worry at schools.](#)" *Philadelphia Inquirer*, November 16, 2004.
- Farley, R. "[Principal's exit leaves school in crisis.](#)" *St. Petersburg Times*, November 20, 2004.

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

### ☆ Math teachers

- Associated Press. "[Agency to use \\$25 million to train math teachers.](#)" *The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer*, November 18, 2004.
- Manzo, K.K. "[N.Y.C. foundation to underwrite math training.](#)" *Education Week*, November 24, 2004.

### ☆ Foreign language teachers

- Orr, B. "[Wyoming battles teacher shortage.](#)" *Wyoming Tribune-Eagle*, November 19, 2004.

### ☆ Special education and bilingual teachers

- Dell'Angela, T. "[Teacher purge misses uncertified substitutes.](#)" *Chicago Tribune*, November 18, 2004.
- Guzman, G. "[Schools struggle to meet bilingual standards as teachers struggle with pay.](#)" *Albuquerque Journal*, November 15, 2004.

## Highly qualified rural teachers

- Gaither, C. "[No child left in the cold.](#)" *Los Angeles Times*, November 11, 2004.

### Also:

- Gaither, C. "[Conducting class from afar.](#)" *Baltimore Sun/Los Angeles Times*, November 21, 2004.
- Contreras, R. "[PBS helps N.M. teachers meet 'No Child Left Behind' requirements.](#)" *Albuquerque Journal*, November 15, 2004.

## Teacher quality

- Olson, L. "[Analysts worry NCLB won't solve teacher issues.](#)" *Education Week*, November 24, 2004.

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

- Sack, J. "[News in Brief: A State Capitals Roundup – School report cards to add data in Calif.](#)" *Education Week*, November 17, 2004.

## RECENT BOOKS, ARTICLES, AND REPORTS

### Mentoring, induction, support

- [What Do I Do Now?](#)  
Allen, R., Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD), *Education Update*, 46(7), November 2004

## Professional development

- [Training the Front Line: Atlanta Elementary School Proves Professional Development Improves Student Learning](#)  
U.S. Department of Education, *The Achiever*, 3(17), November 15, 2004

## Teacher and principal compensation, incentives

- [Performance Anxiety](#)  
Meyers, K., *Teachers Magazine*, 16(3), 15-19, November 1, 2004

## Teacher effectiveness, evaluation

- [Is National Board Certification An Effective Signal of Teacher Quality?](#)  
Cavalluzzo, L., The CNA Corporation, November 2004, 42 pp.
- [Increasing the Odds: How Good Policies Can Yield Better Teachers](#)  
National Council on Teacher Quality, 2004, 16 pp.

## Teachers in hard-to-staff schools

- *Why Do High-Poverty Schools Have Difficulty Staffing Their Classrooms with Qualified Teachers?*  
Ingersoll, R., Center for American Progress and the Institute for America's Future, November, 2004
  - [Executive summary](#)
  - [Full report](#), 20 pp.

## High-quality preschool teachers

- [The State of Preschool: 2004 State Preschool Yearbook](#)  
Barnett, W.S., Hustedt, J., Robin, K., & Schulman, K., National Institute for Early Education Research, Rutgers University, November 2004

### Note:

“Only 13 state prekindergarten initiatives required teachers to have both a bachelor’s degree and specialized training in early childhood education. In addition, only 13 programs required teachers to be paid on a public school salary schedule, even though adequate compensation is necessary for attracting and retaining the most qualified and effective teachers.”

- Grossman, K. [“State ranks near top in quality of preschool efforts for at-risk kids.”](#) *Chicago Sun-Times*, November 22, 2004.
- Beach, R. [“State rates below par grade for preschool.”](#) *New Haven Register*, November 22, 2004.
- Dishongh, K. [“Arkansas gets 10 on preschool.”](#) *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, November 22, 2004.
- Riley, C. [“State’s public preschools first-rate, but more needed, study says.”](#) *The Tennessean*, November 22, 2004.

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

- [\*Searching the Attic for Highly Qualified Teachers: How States Are Responding to the Nation's Goal of a Highly Qualified Teacher in Every Classroom\*](#) (full version of paper forthcoming)  
Walsh, K., & Snyder, E., National Council on Teacher Quality, November 2004, 11 pp.
- [\*NCLB and Highly Qualified Teachers: Where We Have Been and Where We Need to Be\*](#)  
Azordegan, J., & Coble, C., Education Commission of the States, November 15, 2004, 9 pp.
- [\*Reaching the Goal of a Highly Qualified Teacher in Every Classroom\*](#)  
Cortese, A., American Federation of Teachers, November 2004, 9 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.

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