



Teacher Quality and Improvement

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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/TQINewsletter25Oct05.pdf>. All previous issues are posted on the CCSSO website at http://www.ccsso.org/whats_new/newsletters/teacher_quality_and_improvement/index.cfm.

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SOME OF THE TOP STORIES

USDE will allow states extra year to meet NCLB highly-qualified teacher requirements if states are making good-faith efforts to comply with law

- October 21, 2005 [letter to chief state school officers](#) from U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings
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Panel of leading scientists urges immediate improvements in U.S. math and science education; teacher scholarships, professional development among top recommendations

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- Gillis, J. ["Panel sounds alarm on science education."](#) *Washington Post*, October 13, 2005, D05.
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- Viadero, D. [“Panel urges U.S. push to raise math, science achievement.”](#) *Education Week*, October 19, 2005.

Compromise reached on licensure of out-of-state teachers in North Carolina

State board amends policy to allow experienced teachers who are considered highly qualified in other states to earn NC license after 1 year of successful teaching in North Carolina

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New law requires California districts to disclose average teacher salaries at each school on annual report cards

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Stipends offered to select group of Missouri teachers for sharing effective teaching practices lead to accusations of “back-door” merit pay

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Arizona Superintendent Tom Horne proposes \$2,500 tax credit to recruit, retain teachers

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AFT’s latest salary survey reports teacher compensation failing to keep pace with inflation

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Update on teachers displaced by Hurricane Katrina

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FEDERAL UPDATE

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Teacher assignment, distribution

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Teachers of hard-to-fill subjects and specializations

☆ **Math and science**

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RECENT BOOKS, ARTICLES, AND REPORTS

Alternative routes to teaching

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Teachers of hard-to-fill subjects and specializations

☆ Math and science

- [How Immigration Reform Could Help Alleviate the Teacher Shortage](#)
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Teachers in high-poverty, low-performing, and hard-to-staff schools

- [Adding the Critical Voice: A Dialogue with Practicing Teachers on Teacher Recruitment and Retention in Hard-to-Staff Schools](#)
Shapiro, S., & Laine, S., Learning Point Associates, September 2005, 64 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.

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