



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/TQINewsletter27Jan05.pdf>. The PDF version of the previous issue is available at <http://www.ccsso.org/content/pdfs/TQINewsletter12Jan05.pdf>.

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SOME OF THE TOP STORIES

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Supt. James Pughsley proposes slate of incentives, improvements to attract top-quality educators to neediest schools; involuntary transfers not ruled out

- Smolowitz, P. [“Crisis intervention at CMS schools?”](#) *Charlotte Observer*, January 14, 2005.
- Smolowitz, P., & Levine, C. [“CMS puts cost on recruiting.”](#) *Charlotte Observer*, January 19, 2005.
- *Charlotte Observer* editorial staff. [“OPINION: Forcing the issue.”](#) *Charlotte Observer*, January 24, 2005.
- Doss Helms, A. [“CMS chief’s reform plan to be unveiled tonight.”](#) *Charlotte Observer*, January 25, 2005.
- Doss Helms, A. [“CMS recruiting cost unclear.”](#) *Charlotte Observer*, January 26, 2005.
 - [“How to attract best.”](#) *Charlotte Observer*, January 26, 2005.

Some low-performing San Diego schools seek charter status in part to bypass union rules on teacher assignment and transfers

- Gao, H. [“District to study charter status as cure for failing schools; Union rules are cited as constraint.”](#) *San Diego Union-Tribune*, January 6, 2005.
- Gao, H., & Sanchez, L. [“8 San Diego schools to offer academic plans to improve; 4 have prepared charter proposals.”](#) *San Diego Union-Tribune*, January 23, 2005.

- Gao, H. [“Struggling campuses plot course for reform; 8 San Diego schools miss federal academic targets.”](#) *San Diego Union-Tribune*, January 25, 2005.
- *San Diego Union-Tribune* staff. [“School charter proposals outlined.”](#) *San Diego Union-Tribune*, January 26, 2005.

Philadelphia Supt. Paul Vallas overhauls leadership of HR dept. to improve district’s ability to recruit and hire teachers

- Snyder, S. [“School district ousts four managers.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, January 11, 2005.
- Gehring, J. [“Phila. district cleans house to improve teacher hiring.”](#) *Education Week*, January 19, 2005.

L.A. Unified receives national award for teacher-hiring efficiency and HR improvements

- Archer, J. [“Los Angeles district honored for human-resources overhaul.”](#) *Education Week*, January 19, 2005.

Pennsylvania establishes procedures allowing certain teachers to demonstrate mastery of multiple subjects without earning certification in every subject that they teach

- Mezzacappa, D. [“Education board votes to loosen some teaching standards.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, January 21, 2005.
- Pennsylvania State Board of Education. [“Bridge II resolution.”](#) January 20, 2005.

NEW PROPOSALS FROM THE NATION’S GOVERNORS

New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson advocates creation of New Mexico Teacher Corps to staff low-performing schools

- Johnston, R. [“State of the States – New Mexico: Governor makes lengthy wish list.”](#) *Education Week*, January 26, 2005.

Georgia Gov. Sonny Perdue proposes Master Teacher program to recognize accomplished teachers, offer financial incentives for coaching and mentoring others

- MacDonald, M. [“Governor wants to tap top teachers.”](#) *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, January 13, 2005.
- Jacobson, L. [“State of the States – Georgia: Gov. Perdue proposes raise for teachers.”](#) *Education Week*, January 26, 2005.

Governors in Idaho, Mississippi, Rhode Island, Wisconsin, and Massachusetts call for performance-based teacher pay

★ Idaho

- Honawar, V. [“State of the States – Idaho: Gov. Kempthorne backs performance-based pay.”](#) *Education Week*, January 19, 2005.

★ **Mississippi**

- Richard, A. [“State of the States – Mississippi: Winners and losers in Barbour’s budget.”](#) *Education Week*, January 19, 2005.

★ **Rhode Island**

- Borg, L. [“Union leaders fault merit-pay proposal.”](#) *Providence Journal*, January 25, 2005.
- Archer, J. [“State of the States – Rhode Island: Carcieri draws attention to math and science.”](#) *Education Week*, January 26, 2005.

★ **Wisconsin**

- Carr, S. [“Doyle talks up education themes.”](#) *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, January 12, 2005.

★ **Massachusetts**

- Greenberger, S. [“Romney set to propose break on tolls.”](#) *Boston Globe*, January 13, 2005.
- Leblanc, S. [“Romney uses annual address to unveil ambitious education package.”](#) *Boston Globe/Associated Press*, January 14, 2005.

Mass. Gov. Mitt Romney also proposes financial incentives for math and science teachers, improved teacher preparation, authority for principals to remove unqualified teachers, and \$1.5 million for new teacher database

- Lewis, R. [“Longer school day, science exam urged.”](#) *Boston Globe*, January 14, 2005.
- Atkins, K., & Donlan, A. [“Romney touts plan for schools.”](#) *Boston Herald*, January 14, 2005.
- Sacchetti, M. [“Court order could change everything.”](#) *Boston Globe*, January 27, 2005.

FEDERAL UPDATE

USDE insists that North Dakota teachers demonstrate subject matter competence; B.A. and teaching certificate not sufficient

- Dooley, S. [“State must comply with federal education ruling.”](#) *Bismarck (N.D.) Tribune*, January 26, 2005.

INTERNATIONAL UPDATE

- Jacobson, L. [“Ontario scraps test for new teachers.”](#) *Education Week*, January 19, 2005.

IN THE NEWS

Teacher preparation, higher ed

- Simmons, K. [“Regents want more state-trained teachers.”](#) *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, January 13, 2005.

- Neufeld, S. [“UMBC, schools alliance to resume: Teacher training program for math, science was cut after accounting dispute.”](#) *Baltimore Sun*, January 26, 2005.

Teacher certification and licensure

- Johnston, R. [“Ohio teachers board-certified.”](#) *Education Week*, January 19, 2005.
- Catalanello, R. [“28 teachers certified with national board.”](#) *St. Petersburg Times*, January 22, 2005.
- Lash Ritchie, P. [“19 teachers go the board certified distance.”](#) *St. Petersburg Times*, January 23, 2005.

Alternative routes to teaching and administration

- Woodall, M. [“City’s schools to get extra summer help.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, January 13, 2005.
- Dean, M. [“‘Teach for America’ leaving N.Y. for Philly.”](#) *Philadelphia Daily News*, January 13, 2005.
- News & Observer editorial staff. [“OPINION: Teaching new teachers.”](#) *The (Raleigh, N.C.) News & Observer*, January 14, 2005.
- Snyder, S. [“New instructors to fill midyear gaps.”](#) *Philadelphia Inquirer*, January 18, 2005.
- Brandt, S. [“Seeking an educator’s license, just in case.”](#) *The (Minneapolis) Star Tribune*, January 27, 2005.

Teacher effectiveness, evaluation

- Jan, T. [“Boston envisions veteran teachers evaluating rookies.”](#) *Boston Globe*, January 17, 2005.

Professional development

- *Education World* staff. [“Working with NCLB: Staff focus means gains for Native Americans.”](#) *Education World*, January 6, 2005.

Working conditions

- Tinsley, J. [“System is bad, not educators, activist says.”](#) *The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer*, January 19, 2005.
- Dean, M. [“Students chill out in 41^o classrooms.”](#) *Philadelphia Daily News*, January 20, 2005.
- Dell’Angela, T. [“36 kindergartners, 1 frazzled teacher: Crowded West Side classroom is just one example of a problem found in many city schools.”](#) *Chicago Tribune*, January 25, 2005.
- Kay, L. [“Task force formed to examine issue of teacher workloads.”](#) *Baltimore Sun*, January 27, 2005.

Teacher and principal compensation, incentives

★ California

- Izumi, L. [“OPINION: Other view: It’s right to link teachers’ pay to merit.”](#) *The (San Jose) Mercury News*, January 14, 2005.
- Wiener, J. [“Teachers wary on risk, rewards of merit pay.”](#) *Sacramento Bee*, January 18, 2005.

- Milken, L., & Solmon, L. "[OPINION: Getting our money's worth in public education: Pay teachers for their performance.](#)" *San Francisco Chronicle*, January 18, 2005.
- Vargo, M. "[OPINION: Teacher merit pay misses.](#)" *The (San Jose) Mercury News*, January 24, 2005.
- Freedberg, L. "[OPINION: Our spectacular teachers.](#)" *San Francisco Chronicle*, January 24, 2005.
- Sturrock, C. "[Sacramento: Schools chief wants \\$2.3 billion owed by state.](#)" *San Francisco Chronicle*, January 25, 2005.
- Coleman, J. "[Public schools chief breaks ranks with governor on budget.](#)" *San Diego Union-Tribune/Associated Press*, January 25, 2005.

★ **Denver**

- McGray, D. "[Working with the enemy.](#)" *New York Times*, January 16, 2005.

★ **Maryland**

- Neufeld, S., & Kay, L. "[Schools seek more funding for mandates.](#)" *Baltimore Sun*, January 17, 2005.

★ **Minnesota**

- Draper, N. "[School officials hoped for more from Pawlenty.](#)" *The (Minneapolis) Star Tribune*, January 15, 2005.

★ **New York City**

- Herszenhorn, D. "[New York's obstacle course.](#)" *New York Times*, January 16, 2005.

★ **Utah**

- *Salt Lake Tribune* editorial staff. "[OPINION: Involve teachers.](#)" *Salt Lake Tribune*, January 14, 2005.

Teacher residency rules

- Westmoore, P. "[Dropping employee residency rule urged.](#)" *Buffalo News*, January 18, 2005.

Teachers of hard-to-fill subjects and specializations

- Loh, L. "[City principal finds teacher by turning to private sector.](#)" *Baltimore Sun*, January 24, 2005.

Also:

- Loh, L. "[City principal finds teacher by turning to private sector.](#)" *Chicago Tribune/Baltimore Sun*, January 24, 2005.
- Yang, E. "[UC boss emphasizes science, math needs.](#)" *San Diego Union-Tribune*, January 25, 2005.

Highly qualified tutors

- Grossman, K. "[Tutoring program gets low grades.](#)" *Chicago Sun-Times*, January 17, 2005.

Teacher turnover

- Hannah-Jones, N. "[Group targets teacher exodus.](#)" *The (Raleigh, N.C.) News & Observer*, December 30, 2004.

- Mitchell, N. "[Survey: Many DPS teachers unhappy,](#)" *Rocky Mountain News*, January 22, 2005.

Substitute teachers

- Bauza, M. "[Schools tap Kelly Services for teacher temps.](#)" *Detroit News*, January 20, 2005.

Rehiring retired teachers and administrators

- Nelson, R. "[School retiree policy debated,](#)" *The (New Orleans) Times-Picayune*, January 19, 2005.
- Nelson, R. "[Board debates allowing comebacks; Retired administrators could seek posts again,](#)" *The (New Orleans) Times-Picayune*, January 20, 2005.
- Rockoff, J. "[Panel backs hiring retirees for vacancies in classrooms,](#)" *Baltimore Sun*, January 19, 2005.

Also:

- Rockoff, J. "[Panel backs hiring retirees for vacancies in classrooms,](#)" *Chicago Tribune/Baltimore Sun*, January 19, 2005.

Teachers in high-poverty, low-performing schools

- Letters to the editor. "[OPINION: Even 'superteachers' aren't miracle workers,](#)" *Education Week*, January 26, 2005.

RECENT BOOKS, ARTICLES, AND REPORTS

Teacher assignment

- [Creating Faculties that Support School Communities](#) (excerpt)
Jupp, B., *Voices in Urban Education*, 5, 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.

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