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Top Stories

Despite the nation's rocky economy and a national tilt toward conservative candidates, voters in several states gave the go-ahead for generous new education spending.
http://www.edweek.org/ew/ewstory.cfm?slug=11ballot.h22

The U.S. Department of Education has put together a number of online tools designed to help school leaders understand the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB).
http://www.ed.gov/offices/OESE/reference.html

Funding Sources

The eBeam Group at Electronics for Imaging (EFI) is offering select schools free eBeam Systems. The eBeam System is a portable communication tool that captures and transfers handwritten notes and drawings from your existing whiteboard to your Mac or PC. Deadline: December 31, 2002. http://www.e-beam.com/links/techfund.html

The 2003 Toyota TAPESTRY Grants for Teachers program will award 50 grants of up to $10,000 each and a minimum of 20 "mini-grants" of $2,500 each to K-12 science teachers. Deadline: January 16, 2003. http://www.nsta.org/programs/tapestry

The Toshiba America Foundation encourages programs with the potential to improve classroom teaching and learning of science, mathematics, and the science and mathematics of technology. Grant proposals (under $5,000) are accepted throughout the year.
http://www.toshiba.com/about/taf/grant.html

Policy Updates

Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia are developing a proposal for a regional teaching license. http://edweek.org/ew/ewstory.cfm?slug=10move.h22

No Child Left Behind Act raises standards for teacher's aides.
http://www.washingtonpost.com/ac2/wp-dyn?pagename=article&node=&contentId=A41242-2002Nov11&notFound=true

Effective Strategies

Family Involvement

The Public Education Network has developed an indispensable guide for community leaders, parents and educators on how to use the No Child Left Behind Act to advocate for improved public education. http://www.publiceducation.org/pubs/pubpreorder/orderform.asp

This article outlines a few family involvement strategies that schools can use to provide stability and support for children made vulnerable by disruptions in their education and home lives.
http://www.ascd.org/readingroom/edupdate/2002/200211/varlas.html

Instructional Technologies

The Technology Funding Forecast reveals how to mine an estimated $60 billion in education funding to help pay for ed-tech projects.
http://www.eschoolnews.com/alert/pdf/fundingforecast.pdf

United States students have better access to computers than students in nearly every other industrialized nation, but, on average, perform no better than the rest. http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/showStoryalert.cfm?ArticleID=4036

The Center for Digital Government has released its latest survey of states' use of learning technologies. http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/showStoryalert.cfm?ArticleID=4074

Mentoring/Tutoring
This series of brief articles zeroes in on effective guidance and mentoring programs from the perspective of the middle grades principal. http://www.naesp.org/comm/mmfall02.htm

Intense tutoring available for the suburban, smart and disadvantaged. http://www.nytimes.com/2002/11/18/education/18PREP.html

Reading/Writing
The International Children's Digital Library, a joint project of the University of Maryland and the Internet Archive, is billed as the world's largest digital library for children. http://www.icdlbooks.org/

Franklin Schargel describes what teachers and parents can do to develop an appreciation for reading in youth in *Fostering A Love For Reading: An Investment In The Future.* http://www.guidancechannel.com/detail.asp?index=953&cat=1

The Partnership for Reading is a collaborative effort intended to provide educators with the findings of evidence-based reading research. http://www.nifl.gov/partnershipforreading/

Violence Prevention/Conflict Resolution
The federal government is investing more than $3 million in a new online safety program meant to empower children with the skills to sidestep dangerous, sometimes deadly Internet predators. http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/showStory.cfm?ArticleID=4076   http://www.isafe.org

A joint report by the Bureau of Justice Statistics and NCES examines crime occurring in school as well as on the way to and from school. http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2003009

The Don't Laugh at Me Project works to reduce bullying and ostracism in schools. Its Web site contains links to related publications, organizations and programs designed to reduce violence in schools. http://www.dontlaugh.org/

Resources & Tools
Paul Barton, in his report, *The Closing of the Education Frontier?* challenges the conventional wisdom that educational attainment in America has continued to increase during the last quarter century. www.ets.org/research

Jay P. Greene's latest report, *Public School Graduation Rates in the United States*, continues to contradict NCES statistics. http://www.manhattan-institute.org/cr_31.pdf

According to a report on world education from the United Nations, 28 countries--accounting for over 26% of the world's population-- may not reach any of three critical education goals. http://www.unesco.org/bpi/eng/unescopress/2002/02-93e.shtml

Feedback
We appreciate comments from our readers. Please contact us at ndpc@clemson.edu Sources: ED Week, ECS, ENC, eSn, ETS, Middle Web, NCES, PEN Weekly