

Dropout Prevention Update
February 2, 2004- Volume 3- Number 8
National Dropout Prevention Center/Network

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Top Stories

A group of experts selected by the National Institute of Statistical Sciences will review methods for reporting high school dropouts & on-time graduates.

<http://www.edweek.org/ew/ewstory.cfm?slug=16Paige.h23>

<http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2003/12/12192003.html>

A new organization called The Teaching Commission, a group of business and government leaders, calls for linking all teachers' pay to student performance.

<http://www.cnn.com/2004/EDUCATION/01/14/teacher.salaries.ap/index.html>

Funding Sources

The AT&T CARES Youth Service Action Fund provides fifty-grants of \$500 each to young people (ages 5-25) and organizations to implement service projects for National Youth Service Day.

Deadline: February 13, 2004. http://www.ysa.org/awards/award_grant.cfm

HP's Technology for Teaching Grant initiative supports innovative and effective uses of technology in classrooms so that students may reach their full potential, particularly in math, science, and engineering. Deadline: March 1, 2004. <http://www.hp.com/go/hpteach>

Policy Updates

States have chosen a variety of means to award "highly qualified" status to veteran teachers who do not want to take a test or pursue a college major in the subjects they teach.

<http://www.edweek.org/ew/ewstory.cfm?slug=18Housse.h23>

A 35-year-old experiment in neighborhood control of public schools will end this spring when New York City's 32 elected school boards are replaced by parent councils chosen mainly by PTA officers. <http://www.cnn.com/2004/EDUCATION/01/19/nyc.school.overhaul.ap/index.html>

International Notes

A teacher's radical methods have stirred up the French educational establishment.

[http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/main.jhtml%3B\\$sessionId\\$RPSJECCFZS41BQFIQMGCFWAVCBQUIV0?xml=/education/2004/01/03/tenfran02.xml&sSheet=/education/2004/01/03/ixteleft.html](http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/main.jhtml%3B$sessionId$RPSJECCFZS41BQFIQMGCFWAVCBQUIV0?xml=/education/2004/01/03/tenfran02.xml&sSheet=/education/2004/01/03/ixteleft.html)

Iraqi education leaders are relishing their first classroom freedoms but grappling with the task of reinventing their schools. http://www.boston.com/news/education/k_12/articles/2004/01/14/iraqis_struggle_to_reinvent_school_system/

Effective Strategies

Career Education

New Hampshire Career Resource Network has developed a series of brochures: *20 Fastest Growing Occupations*. <http://www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/nhcrn/index.htm>

Workforce.net is a virtual library of resources for workforce development practitioners.

<http://www.workforceusa.net/home/index.cfm>

Community Collaboration

Vital Voices: Constituencies for Public Education Reform examines the key role that community plays in achieving school reform. <http://www.aed.org/scs>

Supporting the Education Organizing Movement: An Exchange Between Intermediaries has been released. http://www.justicematters.org/images/Ed_Organizing_Intermed_Exch.pdf

Family Involvement

A wealth of resources are available on the Parent Leadership Associates website. <http://www.plassociates.org/>

OJJDP has teamed with other Federal agencies and organizations to support February as Parent Leadership Month. <http://www.parentsanonymous.org/pahtml/NPLMonth1.html>

For many students, particularly students from low-income families and students of color, a significant disconnect exists between the worlds of school, family, and community. A new guide helps schools and teachers bring the diverse worlds together and recognize the assets and strengths inherent in each. <http://www.turningpts.org/guides.htm>

Reading/Writing

Zero to Six: Electronic Media in the Lives of Infants, Toddlers and Preschoolers found that this country's 0-6 year old children spend three times more time watching television, or using computers or video games than they do reading. <http://www.kff.org/entmedia/3378.cfm>

According to Lesaux, it is of paramount importance, especially with older learners, to consider cultural orientation in literacy education when there is a dominant group of English Language Learners in the classroom. <http://www.gse.harvard.edu/news/features/lesaux12012003.html>

Statistically, more American children suffer long-term life-harm from the process of learning to read than from parental abuse, accidents, and all other childhood diseases and disorders combined. <http://www.childrenofthecode.org/cotcintro.htm>

Resources & Tools

Lisa Delpit argues that educators must look beyond standardized test scores and scripted instructional programs if their desire is to educate all children. http://www.aera.net/pubs/er/pdf/vol32_07/AERA320702.pdf

A precedent-setting study of how students in some of the nation's largest urban districts perform in mathematics and reading when compared with the nation, and groups similar to themselves, shows some unexpected results. <http://www.edweek.org/ew/ewstory.cfm?slug=16NAEP.h23>

There are great insights and pointers for almost 100 problematic behaviors for any teacher struggling with discipline issues. <http://www.disciplinehelp.com>

The Education Pipeline in the United States, 1970-2000 identifies key transition points through which students progress, or fail to progress from kindergarten through the grades to high school graduation. <http://www.bc.edu/nbetpp>

Sign up to receive "Extra Credit," which provides a regular look at the No Child Left Behind Act. <http://www.ed.gov/news/newsletters/extracredit/index.html>

Education Week will be doing a five-part series examining the 50-year anniversary of the historic decision *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*. <http://www.edweek.org/ew/ewstory.cfm?slug=19brown.h23>

Feedback

We appreciate comments from our readers. Please contact us at ndpc@clemsun.edu Sources: CCS List, EDNews, Commentaries & Reports, ECS, ENC, eSn, Middle Web, PEN Weekly

