

Dropout Prevention Update
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National Dropout Prevention Center/Network

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Top Stories

UNICEF will use 50% of their Trick-or-Treat proceeds for Hurricane Katrina relief efforts.
<http://www.unicefusa.org/site/apps/nl/content2.asp?c=duLR18O0H&b=33260&ct=1396261>

Norfolk (Virginia) Public Schools system is the winner of the 2005 Broad Prize for Urban Education. <http://www.broadfoundation.org/flagship/prize.shtml>

The U.S. Department of Education is seeking teachers and school leaders to participate in their Teacher-to-Teacher Training Corps. Deadline: October 10, 2005.
<http://www.teacherquality.us/TeacherToTeacher/CallForTrainers.asp>

Funding Sources

Grants, funded by the State Farm Companies Foundation, are available from Youth Service America for teachers, youth (ages 5-25), and school-based service-learning coordinators to implement service-learning projects for National & Global Youth Service Day April 21-23, 2006. Deadline: October 17, 2005. http://www.ysa.org/awards/award_grant.cfm

Public school employees impacted by Hurricane Katrina may apply for grants for housing, food, clothing, and other necessities. For information: call 1-866-247-2239, or e-mail: katrinarelief@nea.org or <http://www.nea.org/katrina/index.html>

Tiger Woods Foundation grants focus on providing opportunities to children who are underserved. Deadline: Nov 1, 2005. <http://www.twfound.org/grants/deadlines.sps?itype=7610>

Policy Updates

Dramatic gains in test scores by black and Hispanic students in Wake County (NC) may be attributed to integration by income. <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/09/25/education/25raleigh.html>

Renewing Our Schools, Securing Our Future, outlines a wide range of policy recommendations that go far beyond the goals of the No Child Left Behind Act.
<http://www.americanprogress.org/site/pp.asp?c=biJRJ8OVF&b=994995>

International Notes

Tire Tracks is an online education program that engages students and teachers in the exploration of Africa. <http://www.tiretracks.org/>

British teachers are entitled by law to 10% of the timetable free from teaching in the classroom so they can get on with what is called PPA, or "planning, preparation and assessment".
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/4209222.stm>

Students With Disabilities

Essential Tools: Community Resource Mapping provides step-by-step instructions on understanding, planning, and engaging in the coordination of community resources that support the transition of youth with disabilities into adult life.
<http://www.ncset.org/publications/essentialtools/mapping/default.asp>

Advice for parents on special education services for their children.
<http://www.aed.org/Education/US/speced101.cfm>

Effective Strategies

Alternative Schooling

Cristo Rey schools for low-income students combine high academic standards with real-world work experience in corporate America. In return, the school, not the student, receives a paycheck. <http://www.cristoreynetwork.org/>

Teens who are recovering from substance abuse attend so-called recovery schools, aka “dry highs.” <http://www.csba.org/csmag/csMagStoryTemplate.cfm?id=76>

The American Architectural Foundation and KnowledgeWorks Foundation have created a video case study and discussion guide that will educate local leaders and residents about the benefits of creating “Schools as Centers of Community.”

<http://www.smartgrowth.org/library/articles.asp?art=1774&res=800>

Educational Technology

A veteran math instructor says a teacher's best bet for getting students interested in mathematics is fantasy football. <http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/showStory.cfm?ArticleID=5861>

Twenty Must-Have Technology Skills for educators, along with links to Web sites.
<http://thejournal.com/magazine/vault/A5387.cfm>

A recent survey found that nearly all states with textbook adoption policies now include software, digital content, and other technology-based media in their definitions of “instructional materials.”
<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/showStoryts.cfm?ArticleID=5883>

Family Engagement

Free online calendar service for teachers to keep parents updated on class schedules and activities. <http://www.trumba.com/>

A toolkit of resources that Hispanic families can use to improve their children's performance in school. <http://www.ed.gov/parents/academic/involve/toolkit/index.html>

The Harvard Family Research Project has published an online guide to information, resources and tools dedicated to promoting and supporting family involvement in education.
<http://www.gse.harvard.edu/hfrp/projects/fine/resources/guide/index.html?pid=10625>

Resources & Tools

Former military who transition to teaching are meeting the nation's growing need for specific kinds of teachers. <http://www.ncei.com/>

Education: The State We're In provides a comprehensive, state-by-state snapshot of education today in America. <http://www.americanprogress.org/site/pp.asp?c=biJRJ8OVF&b=9999991>

Highly credentialed teachers from across North Carolina suggest ideas on how to get more accomplished teachers like themselves into the schools that need them most.
<http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2005/08/31/01nbptsnc.h25.html>

We appreciate comments from our readers. Please contact us at ndpc@clemsn.edu Sources: ECS, Education Gadfly, EducationNews.org, eSn, National Service-Learning Partnership, NCLB Extra Credit, PEN Weekly, rtcUpdates