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October 2008 E-News

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Announcements

The latest news and information from around the country.

New Projects

New Employment Awareness Campaign from ODEP

<http://www.dol.gov/odep/mlb/index.htm>

The Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy's (ODEP) has announced its new PITCH Campaign - Proving Individuals with Talent Can Help. The campaign spokesman, Jim Abbott, is a former Major League Baseball pitcher. Along with ODEP, Jim is helping to spread the word about the value that people with disabilities can bring to the workplace. Learn more about PITCH, and get answers to questions about hiring people with disabilities and how parents can help put their children on the path to future employment.

Week of the Classroom Teacher: October 5-11, 2008

<http://www.acei.org/WOCT08.html>

Promoted by the Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI), the Week of the Classroom Teacher has been scheduled in conjunction with UNESCO's World Teachers' Day on October 5. ACEI's website offers a free planning guide and materials to celebrate teachers and promote the Week of the Classroom Teacher and World Teachers' Day.

Calls to Participate

25th Annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disabilities: Call for Proposals

<http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu/>

The Service-Learning Showcase at the May 4-5, 2009, Pacific Rim Conference will feature high-quality service-learning projects from across the country and around the world. Showcase participants will talk with conference attendees about service-learning project implementation, connection to curriculum goals, and impact. Youth participation is strongly encouraged. Application deadline: November 3, 2008.

Foreign Language Survey Asks People with Disabilities to Respond

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s/47971/foreignlanguages>

National surveys show high school students with disabilities, while increasing in the numbers enrolled, still lag behind their non-disabled peers in the percentages taking foreign language courses. Students with and without disabilities are close to equal in the percentages completing foreign language courses at the higher education level. However, the data do not explain what languages are being studied, how successful the learning experience is, and what are the barriers and benefits for people with disabilities at all ages. The National Clearinghouse on Disability and Exchange seeks the input of people with disabilities on their experiences with foreign language learning. The 10-minute Foreign Language survey is online. The survey deadline is Oct. 31, 2008.

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The Resource Zone

Other National Resources

Alliance Hosts Briefing on Student Engagement (September 2008)

(September 2008)

http://www.all4ed.org/events/studentengagement_HSdropoutprevention

Read a summary and to watch video of Alliance for Excellent Education event "Student Engagement as a Dropout Prevention Strategy, with speakers Linda Darling-Hammond and Pedro Noguera (both professors of education and Alliance board members), and George Wood (executive director, Forum for Education and Democracy and principal of Federal Hocking High School in Ohio).

Community Schools: Working Toward Institutional Transformation (2008)



Report

<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/csinstitutionaltrans.pdf>

This report from the UCLA Center for Mental Health in Schools explores the concept of Community Schools, the state of the art, guiding frameworks for designing interventions at a community school, the process of school-family-community collaboration, and considerations related to moving forward. Available in pdf (126 pages, 543 KB).

Evaluating the Impact of Interventions that Promote Successful Transitions from High School (August 2008)

Research Brief

<http://tinyurl.com/3knmju>

This research brief from the National High School Center examines the challenges and opportunities presented in evaluating whether an intervention achieves defined goals of increasing students' educational attainment, employment, and earnings after high school. Available in pdf (11 pages, 279 KB).

From No Child Left Behind to Every Child a Graduate: A Policy Framework for Improving Secondary Schools (August 2008)

Report

http://www.all4ed.org/publication_material/reports/ECAG

The Alliance for Excellent Education's new report, "From No Child Left Behind to Every Child a Graduate," chronicles problems in the nation's secondary schools and presents a framework for improving secondary schools, reflecting agreement among educators, researchers, policymakers, and other authorities on the specific problems of secondary schools, as well as on the research- and best-practice-supported solutions to those problems.

New Resource Provides Easier Access to Foreign Languages for People Who Are Blind (September 2008)

Resource

<http://www.miusa.org/ncde/tipsheets/languageguide>

The National Clearinghouse on Disability and Exchange (NCDE) has published "Accessing Foreign Language Materials as a Blind or Low Vision Student" to support blind and low vision students in accessing course materials in a broad range of foreign language courses, from Arabic to Turkish. This informational guide includes: commonly used assistive technology and software to handle foreign languages, guidance for locating audio, braille or large print materials in foreign languages, tips on transcribing braille textbooks in foreign languages or using readers and scribes, and considerations for studying a foreign language abroad. The guide emphasizes critical need languages, such as Arabic, Chinese, Hindi/Urdu, Japanese, Korean, Persian/Farsi, Russian and Turkish, although information is also applicable to more commonly taught languages such as French, German, and Spanish.

Preparing High School Students for Successful Transitions to Postsecondary Education and Employment (August 2008) 

Issue Brief

http://www.betterhighschools.org/docs/PreparingHSSStudentsforTransition_073108.pdf

This issue brief from the National High School Center highlights lessons learned from selected policies and programs designed to improve students' preparation for postsecondary pathways. It summarizes core characteristics of popular interventions in a user-friendly chart, and poses implementation questions and challenges, including considerations for students with disabilities. Available in pdf (24 pages, 566 KB).

Projections of Education Statistics to 2017 (September 2008)

Report

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2008078>

This report from the National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, provides projections for key education statistics, including statistics on enrollment, graduates, teachers, and expenditures in elementary and secondary schools, and enrollment and earned degrees conferred expenditures of degree-granting institutions. For the nation, the tables, figures, and text contain data on enrollment, teachers, graduates, and expenditures for the past 14 years and

projections to the year 2017; for the 50 states and the District of Columbia, they contain data on projections of public elementary and secondary enrollment and public high school graduates to the year 2017. The report also includes a methodology section describing models and assumptions used to develop national and state-level projections.

Promising Practices in Working with Young Adults (October 2008)

Booklet

http://www.youthtoday.org/publication/article.cfm?article_id=2378

This booklet, from the Youth Development Institute, offers ways in which partnerships between schools and community organizations can support education/training and opportunities for young adults who have dropped out of high school. It describes specific practices and program models.

Resolution Meetings: A Guide for Parents Now Available in Spanish


(June 2008)

Guide

<http://www.directionservice.org/cadre/resmtgdoc.cfm>

This guide helps families to have a better understanding of Resolution Meetings. It is a joint Publication from CADRE and the ALLIANCE. Esta Guía ayuda a las familias a tener un mejor entendimiento de las Reuniones de Resolución. Esta es una Publicación conjunta de CADRE y la ALLIANZA. To see the document in Spanish: <http://www.directionservice.org/cadre/resmtgdocspan.cfm> To see the document in English: <http://www.directionservice.org/cadre/resmtgdoc.cfm>

School Dropout Prevention: A Civil Rights and Public Health Imperative

(September 2008) 

Report

<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/Newsletter/fall08.pdf>

Dropouts are a national crisis. This report stresses ideas and resources related to preventing student dropout, with a brief discussion on focusing on intrinsic motivation to re-engage students. More than half a million young people drop out of high school each year, and the drop-out rate has remained about the same for the last 30 years. Ultimately, as with so many problems in society, decreasing the rate of dropouts could be tremendously aided by reducing generational poverty. For the immediate future, however, there is a great deal schools and their communities can and should do. Available in pdf (12 pages, 513 KB).

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What's Happening

Other National Events

**Environmental Contaminants and Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
AAIDD's Environmental Health Initiative (EHI)**

Teleconference Call

October 7, 2008

www.ehinitiative.org

Daniel Axelrad will discuss the studies on the relationship between Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder and environmental contaminants such as lead. The toll free number for the teleconference is 1.800.868.1837; pass code: 588 695#.

Promoting English Learners' Success

Web-based Event

October 8, 2008 - November 18, 2008

<http://www.aacompcenter.org/cs/wested/print/htdocs/res.htm>

In October (8, 15, 22, 28, 29, 30) and November (5, 12, 18) SchoolsMovingUp will host nine webinars on the latest research and practice on the instruction of English learners. Their array of Reading Room resources on English learners complements this landmark series.

Everything You Need to Know about the Enforcement of the ADA but Were Afraid to Ask

November 18, 2008

Audio Conference

1:00 AM - 2:30 AM (Central)

<http://www.ada-audio.org/Schedule/>

A few of the many questions people ask about the ADA and the enforcement process are: When do I file? What agency do I file with? What is alternative dispute resolution? Can I file at the state and federal level at the same time? What is a designated agency? What if I miss the 180 day filing deadline? This audio conference, sponsored by the National Network of DBTAC-Regional ADA Centers, will review the enforcement options available to individuals and explain the various methods for pursuing a complaint under the various titles of the ADA.

2008 NCTI Technology Innovators Conference: Thriving in a Global Marketplace

Conference

November 20, 2008 - November 21, 2008

Washington, DC

<http://www.nationaltechcenter.org/>

The National Center for Technology Innovation (NCTI) will host the Technology Innovators Conference in Washington, DC, on emerging technology trends, challenges, and guidance for "Thriving in a Global Marketplace." Registrants can submit proposals to showcase in the Tech Expo. The deadline for advance registration is November 7. The agenda, registration form, and information on The Madison Hotel are at the Web site.

2009 National Forum on Education Statistics and the NCES Management Information Systems

Conference

February 16, 2009 - February 20, 2009

Seattle, WA

<http://ies.ed.gov/whatsnew/conferences/?id=381>

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), in the U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences (IES), will sponsor the 2009 National Forum on Education Statistics and the NCES Management Information Systems (MIS) Conference in Seattle, Washington on best practices, innovative ideas, current issues, and practical how-to advice about management information systems for K-12 education. The Forum will be held on Feb. 16-17, 2009; the MIS Conference (co-sponsored by the Washington State Department of Education) will be Feb. 18-20, 2009. Proposals for presenting sessions are welcome. Topics are invited from all sources, but the major focus will be on data use, data standards, statewide data systems, and data quality. [^ Top of Page ^](#)

Get Wired!

Web Sites

Center for Comprehensive School Reform and Improvement Web site

www.centerforcsri.org

The Center for Comprehensive School Reform and Improvement at Learning Point Associates has just launched its new Web site on developments in school reform and improvement, with news, information on its webcasts and podcasts, and links to relevant Web sites.

My Voice, My Vote

www.myvoicemyvote.org

My Voice, My Vote is a new Web site for young adults with disabilities who want to learn about the voting process and make a difference in their communities. The site includes resources for voters in Minnesota and across the country, including the many different ways one can vote and what it means to be a good citizen. The Web site also includes an open-captioned video on the voting process. The video can be embedded in individuals' Web sites by going to http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K6zL_PJYz-g.

National Resource Center Prepares Diverse Communities for Emergencies

<http://www.diversitypreparedness.org/>

The National Resource Center on Advancing Emergency Preparedness for Culturally Diverse Communities is a hub of resources for communities, service providers, and emergency planners and an exchange site to facilitate communication, networking, and collaboration. The site also features hundreds of cross-referenced annotated resources in over 40 languages highlighting successful programs and projects.

U.S. Department of Education College.gov Site

<http://www.college.gov>

The U.S. Department of Education has a new Web site that aims to motivate students with inspirational stories and information about planning, preparing, and paying for college. Designed with students' input and participation, College.gov was created as an online resource for credible information about college, providing real-life experiences of peers already attending college.

Listservs

The Special Ed Advocate Newsletter

<http://www.wrightslaw.com/subscribe.htm>

The Special Ed Advocate is a free online newsletter about special education legal and advocacy topics. Subscribers learn about new cases, articles, seminars and training, special offers on books by Pete & Pam Wright, and other useful information about special education law and advocacy.

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Funding Forecast

Federal Grant Opportunities

Forecast of Funding Opportunities under the Department of Education Discretionary Grant Programs for Fiscal Year 2008

<http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/find/edlite-forecast.html>

This document lists virtually all programs and competitions under which the U.S. Department of Education has invited or expects to invite applications for new awards for fiscal year 2008 and provides actual or estimated deadlines for the transmittal of applications under these programs. The lists are in the form of charts organized according to the Department's principal program offices and include programs and competitions previously announced as well as those to be announced at a later date.

FY 2007-2008 Discretionary Grant Application Packages

<http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/grantapps/index.html>

This site, from the Department of Education, provides information on grant competitions that are currently open.

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Additional Funding and Award Opportunities

American Association of Physics Teachers High School Physics Teacher Grant

<http://www.aapt.org/Grants/hsgrant.cfm>

The American Association of Physics Teachers High School Physics Teacher Grant will reward a proposal designed to result in better teaching, student understanding and interest, and increased class enrollment. The proposal may use a new teaching method or an adaptation of an existing idea. Maximum award: \$500. Eligibility: members of AAPT. Deadline: Dec. 1, 2008.

American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Science and Math Programs

<http://www.aiaa.org/content.cfm?pageid=216>

American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Science and Math Programs Grants assist educators in presenting mathematics, science, and technology principles to K-12 students in an exciting, hands-on manner. Maximum award: \$1,000. Eligibility: AIAA Educator Associate K-12 teachers. Deadline: Nov. 30, 2008.

Broad Residency in Urban Education

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat_education.jhtml

The Broad Residency in Urban Education is a two-year leadership development program that places participants into full-time high-level managerial positions in school districts and Charter Management Organizations. The residency is designed for individuals with an advanced degree (master's or higher), at least four years of work experience, and a successful record of leadership and/or management. Residents earn starting annual salaries of \$85,000 to \$95,000 and participate in professional development sessions over the course of two years. At the end of the program, the Broad Residency expects that school districts and CMOs will hire residents permanently in their current positions or promote them into more senior leadership posts. The initial steps of the admissions process occur in two cycles. Candidates may enter the process in either the early or regular cycle. Candidates who apply to the early cycle will be notified sooner whether they will be advancing to a final interview with the hiring organization. The Early Cycle Deadline is December 1, 2008; the Regular Cycle Deadline is February 2, 2009.

Grants Available to Support Summer Camps to Introduce Young People to Careers in Manufacturing and Engineering

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15015331/fmafdn>

The Fabricators & Manufacturers Association Foundation and the Nuts, Bolts and Thingamajigs Foundation offer grants ranging from \$2,500 to \$5,000 not-for-profit organizations and educational institutions offering overnight or day-camp experiences in summer 2009 that introduce young people to careers in manufacturing and engineering. The purpose of the manufacturing camps is to provide a positive, hands-on experience so young people will consider manufacturing as a future career option. Camps must target young people, ages 12-16. Preference will be given to organizations serving minority populations. Grant funds may be used for expenses related to curriculum development and instruction, as well as direct expenses such as housing, meals, transportation, and supplies. Deadline: December 12, 2008

National Center for Family Literacy Invites Entries for Toyota Family Literacy Teacher of the Year

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=227900013

An award of \$7,500 plus a trip to the 2009 National Conference on Family Literacy in Orlando, Florida, will be given to family educators working to improve children's, adult/ESL, and parenting education. Family educators from across the United States are eligible for the award. Nominees must work primarily in children's education, adult/ESL education, parenting education, or other educational services and must be able to demonstrate an impact on intergenerational learning between parents and children. Programs may nominate up to two educators. The online nomination form must be completed by the program director or coordinator. The nomination must include a statement of support for the nominated educator written by an adult student who works with the educator. Deadline: December 5, 2008

NFL Grassroots Program

<http://www.lisc.org/section/goals/healthy/youth>

Community football fields or high school football fields need improvements or replacement can apply to the NFL Grassroots Program, which provides grants to nonprofit neighborhood-based organizations with financial and technical assistance to improve the quality, safety and accessibility of local football fields. Deadline:

December 15, 2008.

Reader's Digest Foundation: "Make It Matter" Grants

<http://www.rd.com/make-your-mark-make-a-difference/make-it-matter/article54800.html>

To identify people whose stories of giving back inspire others, the foundation will donate funds to a nonprofit organization associated with a particular story or cause. Anyone can submit a story about an effective or inspiring group, which will be published on the website; the nonprofits selected will receive funds up to \$100,000. Deadline: January 1, 2009.

SeaWorld/Busch Gardens Environmental Excellence Awards

http://www.swbg-conservationfund.org/projects_Awards.html

The SeaWorld/Busch Gardens Environmental Excellence Awards recognize outstanding grassroots efforts by students and teachers to protect and preserve the environment. Maximum award: \$10,000. Eligibility: all schools (grades K-12) and community groups. Deadline: Nov. 28, 2008.

Students Invited to Create "Green Solutions" in National Middle School Sustainability Challenge

<http://www.wecanchange.com/>

Middle school students across the United States are invited to submit solutions to environmental problems for the Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge, a national sustainability education initiative (sponsored by the Siemens Foundation, Discovery Education, and National Science Teachers Association). Student teams of 2-3 students, grades 6-8, under the mentorship of a teacher or adult supervisor, can register for the challenge. Teams will identify an environmental issue in their community, research the issue, and create a replicable green solution using Web-based curriculum tools. The mentors of the first hundred teams to register and complete a project for challenge will receive a Planet Earth series DVD set. All student teams entering the challenge will receive prizes; top-performing teams will earn cash, teacher education materials, and "Discovery Experience" trips. The grand prize winning team will receive a comprehensive prize package, which includes an appearance on Planet Green, Discovery's eco-lifestyle network, and a Discovery Adventure Trip. Deadline: March 15, 2009.

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End of Issue

Excerpting E-News

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If you have information on new products, resources, funding opportunities, and conferences or training events and want to contribute these to a future E-News issue, please e-mail the information to ncset@umn.edu or see [Suggest an Item for E-News](#) for more information.

Purpose of the Listserv

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to stay connected and informed about secondary education and transition issues.

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E-News was supported in whole or in part by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, (Cooperative Agreement No. H326J000005). However, the opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the policy or position of the U. S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, or any of the [six partners](#) of the National Center on Secondary Education and Transition, and no official endorsement should be inferred.

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**Please contact us with your questions, comments, or suggestions
(include your phone number and the city and state where you live) at:**

National Center on Secondary Education and Transition
Institute on Community Integration
University of Minnesota
6 Pattee Hall
150 Pillsbury Drive SE
Minneapolis MN 55455
ncset@umn.edu
612-624-2097 (phone)
612-624-9344 (fax)

We will reply to you as soon as we can. Thank you for your interest!

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This page was last updated on October 6, 2011.