

Listserv Posting: February 13, 2013

Greetings -

In order to help you get over the hump of this week, I am sending some news and resources that may be of interest.

Illinois News

- The following is an update on the P-20 Council Educator Licensure Steering Committee for the Illinois Association of School Administrators Publication, [click here to read more](#). For the final report, [click on this link](#).
- The Illinois State Board of Education recently announced their joint work with **University of Chicago Urban Education Institute** in the creation of an online survey titled, *Illinois 5Essentials Survey*. This survey offers students and teachers the opportunity to weigh in on learning conditions and school climate, two indicators that have shown to be necessary for strong student outcomes. To read more about this survey, that will start February 1, 2013, click [here](#).
- An article from *Catalyst Chicago*, put out an article titled, *Principal Recruiting Strategies Touted*. This article talks about the possible lack of job openings in Chicago for the principal candidates preparing to go into the field starting this fall. The article discusses the closing of schools and not knowing how many openings there will be. To read this article, click [here](#).

Research and Policy

- The following article from the *National Education Policy Center* titled, *Research-Based Option for Education Policymaking*, is a 10-part brief that discusses important policy issues while identifying policies that are supported by research. Each section of the brief focuses on a different issue. To read more about this, [click here](#).

Common Core Resources

- Website resource: [Common Core: Real Learning for Real Life](#). This website is a resource for families and educators on the Common Core state standards. Visit the website here: <http://commoncoreil.org/>
- The following resource is an example of a comprehensive calendar of progress for the alignment of the Common Core State Standards. It aligns the standards with classroom activities, out-of-school time programs, and parent workshops. To view this document, click [here](#).
- [Expanding Progress: A Parent Guide to the Common Core Path to Greater Learning](#). This resource is a guide intended for use in parent workshops, explaining what children will be expected to know and be able to do at each grade level.

· Another tool developed for Common Core Literacy Progress is [The Arts Complement: Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Art, Writing](#). This resource provides tools to help implement the Common Core Standards as well as Workshop Planners.

· From the *Federation for Community Schools* and the *Polk Bros. Foundation Center for Urban Education* is a resource created for those who work with students in extended day programs and for parent workshops, in the transition to the Common Core Standards and ISAT support. To access this website and learn more, click [here](#).

· A great resource, from the *Southeast Comprehensive Center*, is a website that provides Common Core State Standards (CCSS) videos to support states, schools, and teachers in the implementation of the Common Core Standards. To see the videos and learn more, click [here](#).

· The following is a resource to support educators during the implementation of the Common Core State Standards. This resource includes instructional materials, supports, and implementation planning. To use this resource and read more, click [here](#).

· This website, Achieve, provides publications and resources for the preparation of students for college and career. The website offers policy briefs, surveys, and white papers. Click [here](#) to read more.

· From the *National Governor's Association* is an Issue Brief: *Trends in State Implementation of the Common Core State Standards: Communications*. This issue brief discusses the successful implementation of the common core state standards and how necessary this is if students are to benefit from the new standards. To read the brief see the attached document titled, TrendsInStateBrief.

· From *Education Week*, is an article discussing the distinction between the terms "noncognitive" and "cognitive" aspects of the learning process. The article, *Rethinking the Notion of 'Noncognitive'*, discusses the measuring elements of the learning process and how to go about it. To read the article, click [here](#).

· Another article from *Education Week* also discusses the idea of cognition. This article, *Giving Cognition a Bad Name*, discusses the meaning of cognition and how it is understood in education policy. To read this article, click [here](#).

· **Future Webinar:** A webinar on **Tuesday, February 26th, 2013 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.** titled, *Building on the Common Core State Standards to Improve Learning for English Language Learners*, will focus on how the transition to the Common Core Standards and the Next-Generation Science Standards provides opportunities and challenges for English Language Learners. To learn more about it [click here](#).

Early Childhood

· Last week in the *Chicago Sun-Times*, Dr. Arthur Reynolds put out an article titled, *Better Pre-K Leads to Better Schools*. This article talked about the education reforms and the focus that needs

to be placed on two "fundamental performance gaps" between a standard of excellence and actual performance. To read his article, click [here](#).

· The *National Governor's Association, Center for Best Practices* hosted a Policy Institute in May 2012 that focused on how governor's advisors and early childhood advisory councils can come together to create and put into action, a strong, research-based Birth to Grade 3 policy agenda. To see the archived materials from this meeting last year [click here](#).

· A study discussed on **NPR**, *Latino Children Make Up For Academic Shortcomings With Strong Social Skills*, discusses Mexican-American preschoolers and how their poor language and literacy skills put them behind their white counterparts before even starting school. To read the article and listen to the story, click [here](#).

· An article from *Education Week* discusses the issue of rural children starting kindergarten with poor reading and math skills. The article talks about the disadvantages that rural children are faced with in comparison to the children living in more urban areas. To read the article, click [here](#).

· **Upcoming Event:** An upcoming event that may be of interest will be hosted by *The Ounce of Prevention*. This event will include a lecture and discussion at the Harris School at University of Chicago on **Wednesday, February 20th at 4 pm**. The speaker, **Dr. Clancy Blair**, is a professor in the Department of Applied Psychology at New York University and will be speaking about executive function and early childhood development. To read more about this event, [click here](#).

Higher Education

· From The Aspen Institute comes a publication titled, *Creating a Faculty Culture of Student Success*. It discusses how top community colleges have encouraged faculty to consistently work towards improvement in their teaching and student learning. To download this publication and read more, click [here](#).

· The Lumina Foundation recently published a study titled, *America's Call for Higher Education Redesign*. This study aimed to understand the American public's opinion on higher education, providing the reader with the findings of the survey, as well as a discussion of what these findings mean. To read the article, click [here](#).

Have a great remainder of the week!