essentials



IDEAS FROM ENGLAND

Building a Lattice for School Leadership: The Top-to-Bottom Rethinking of Leadership Development in England and What It Might Mean for American Education Consortium for Policy Research in Education, 2014

This report examines educational leadership development in England over the last 15 years to identify ideas American leaders and policymakers might learn from. Leadership development in England is enmeshed in a system that provides clear responsibilities for multiple levels of leadership within schools, incentives for identifying and grooming leadership within schools, pathways for leadership progression, and certification for leader attainments.

http://cpre.org/ latticeforschoolleadership

COMMON CORE Get It Right Podcasts

Learning First Alliance

The ultimate success of collegeand career-ready standards demands that states and districts adapt to implementation as work progresses. Implementation requires time to align the standards with teaching, curricular materials, and professional learning. To help ensure proper implementation, the Learning First Alliance is spotlighting communities working hard to get Common Core implementation right. These podcasts tell their stories.

www.learningfirst.org/commoncore/podcast

TRENDS IN AUSTRALIA

Is School Reform Working?

Australian Council for Educational Research, 2014

The results of international surveys show that, despite reform efforts, there was little improvement in the performances of Australian students over the past decade. This paper examines trends in Australian students' performances over the past decade and considers implications for Australian schools policies.

http://research.acer.edu.au/ policyinsights/1

TALIS RESULTS

Teacher Professional Learning Here and Abroad

American Institutes for Research, 2015

Teachers' access to professional learning supports varies widely across the world. According to the 2013 Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS), access to opportunities for collaboration, barriers to professional development, and sources of feedback look different in the United States when compared with other countries. In a series of infographics, the Education Policy Center at American

Institutes for Research explores these differences.

http://educationpolicy.air.org/ publications

TWITTER TALK

#commoncore

Jonathan Supovitz, Alan J. Daly, and Miguel del Fresno

This interactive website uses a two-dimensional approach to tell the story of the Common Core debate on Twitter. The authors tracked and analyzed more than 200,000 tweets containing #commoncore from February to July 2014. The website is organized into major categories: a prologue, four acts, and an epilogue. Viewers can see how users form informal networks on Twitter and how those networks create and amplify narratives.

http://hashtagcommoncore.com

CREATING EXCELLENCE

An Opportunity Culture for All *Public Impact*

In an opportunity culture, schools use job redesign and technology to extend the reach of excellent teachers and the teams they lead — for more pay, within budget, without forcing class-size increases. This website contains resources for creating schools with an opportunity culture, including model schools, teacher career paths, and tools for districts and school design teams.

http://opportunityculture.org





CAUSES OF POVERTY CTAC Insights

Community Training and Assistance Center

CTAC is a national, minoritycontrolled nonprofit whose priority is addressing the root causes of poverty in low-income communities and communities of color. CTAC's blog discusses the realities of practice and policy and the conditions that hobble or help improvements in teaching and learning. Recent posts include "Helping principals beat the clock" and "Can educators make choices that bridge the opportunity gap?" www.ctacusa.com/blog

TECHNOLOGY AND TEACHING Digital Innovation in Learning Awards

Digital Promise

With the Digital Innovation in Learning Awards, Digital Promise recognizes the work of the most innovative people in education and shares their strategies. Digital Promise is a nonprofit organization authorized by Congress to spur innovation in education in order to improve the opportunity to learn for all Americans. Awards for educators, administrators, and organizations span 15 categories. Deadline for videos and applications is Aug. 24. www.digitalpromise.org

IMPLEMENTATION TRENDS

Benchmarking Readiness Standards Southern Regional Education Board

The Southern Regional Education Board conducted a multiyear study of how states are implementing their state college- and career-readiness standards.

In January 2015, SREB published Benchmarking State Implementation of College- and Career-Readiness Standards, Aligned Assessments and Related Reforms. Six individual reports make up the set: a cross-state findings report that describes trends across the states and their work, plus five reports with detailed state profiles by topic.

www.sreb.org/1600

SCHOOL TURNAROUND

Dramatic Action, Dramatic Turnaround: The Research on **School Turnaround**

Center for American Progress, 2015

Although evaluation of the national School Improvement Grants program is still underway, existing research offers key lessons about what methods are most effective when turning around low-performing schools. This brief summarizes much of that research and includes case studies of four schools that have successfully increased student achievement through targeted turnaround efforts. http://ampr.gs/1DCeZQJ



JSD STAFF

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