



## **SAFEGUARDING DATA** Student Data Principles

High-quality education data are essential for improving students' achievement in school and preparing them for success in life. When effectively used, these data can empower educators and families with the information they need to make decisions to help all learners succeed. In fall 2014, the Data Quality Campaign and the Consortium for School Networking convened a coalition of national education organizations to address concerns about student data privacy and equip educators with the ability to effectively use and protect student information. Together they developed 10 Student Data Principles for schools and districts to use to guide their data policies and practices.

<http://studentdataprinciples.org/the-principles>

## **MATH AND THE COMMON CORE** Math Matters: How the Common Core Will Help the United States Bring Up Its Grade on Mathematics Education

*Center for American Progress, August 2015*

The Common Core State Standards add conceptual math to the traditional procedural way math

is taught, allowing students to gain both mathematical fluency and skill proficiency. The Center for American Progress recommends several strategies for states and districts to smooth the transition, including providing high-quality, ongoing, and readily available professional learning that allows teachers to internalize the standards with the help of effective instructors. States should also develop a standards translation guide for teachers.

[www.americanprogress.org/issues/education/report/2015/08/13/119239/math-matters](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/education/report/2015/08/13/119239/math-matters)

## **EDUCATOR BLOG**

### **Ed Praxis: Philosophy in Action**

*Jordan Tinney*

Jordan Tinney, superintendent of Surrey School District in British Columbia, Canada, created his blog to link educational research to practice in schools, particularly in British Columbia. His goal is to generate a forum for how research can influence practice and vice versa. Articles are intended to stimulate thinking for anyone in education, particularly school and district leaders. Topics include the connection between letter grades and performance, the meaning of inclusion, innovation versus transformation, and preparing students for the real world.

[www.jordantinney.org](http://www.jordantinney.org)

## **FOCUS ON PRINCIPALS**

### **Making Time for Instructional Leadership**

*The Wallace Foundation, July 2015*

This three-volume report describes the SAM process, an approach that about 700 schools around the nation are using to direct more of principals' time and effort

to improve teaching and learning in classrooms. Principals often find themselves mired in matters of day-to-day administration and have little time to cultivate better teaching. The SAM process is designed to free up principals' time so they can focus on improving instruction in classrooms. This series investigates the SAM approach, describes how it has changed, and examines the feasibility of a randomized controlled trial to understand its effects.

[www.wallacefoundation.org/knowledge-center/school-leadership/principal-training/Pages/Making-Time-for-Instructional-Leadership.aspx](http://www.wallacefoundation.org/knowledge-center/school-leadership/principal-training/Pages/Making-Time-for-Instructional-Leadership.aspx)

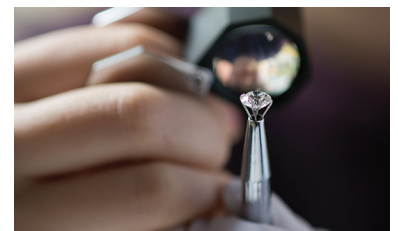
## **HIGH-QUALITY LESSONS**

### **Educators Evaluating Quality Instructional Products**

*Achieve, 2015*

EQulP is an initiative designed to identify high-quality materials aligned to the Common Core State Standards. Its goals are to increase the supply of high-quality materials available to elementary, middle, and high school teachers and build the capacity of educators to evaluate and improve the quality of instructional materials. EQulP builds on a collaborative effort of education leaders from Massachusetts, New York, and Rhode Island. Resources available include rubrics and feedback forms, e-learning modules, student work protocols, and exemplars.

[www.achieve.org/EQulP](http://www.achieve.org/EQulP)





### STRATEGIES FOR DEEPER LEARNING Deeper Learning: Improving Student Outcomes for College, Career, and Civic Life

*American Institutes for Research, August 2015*

Deeper learning delivers rich core content to students in innovative ways that allow them to learn and then apply what they have learned. A recent study by American Institutes for Research found that students in deeper learning schools performed better than similar students on a range of measures. Given those results, this report says that states should consider instituting strategies to increase deeper learning opportunities for all students. Policymakers can support deeper learning by building teacher capacity, promoting innovation and personalization, and enabling greater flexibility at the local level.

<http://educationpolicy.air.org/publications/deeper-learning-improving-student-outcomes-college-career-and-civic-life>

### TEACHER VOICES

#### 'We Always Want To Get Better': Teachers' Voices on Professional Development

*MDRC, June 2015*

Through the Innovative Professional Development (iPD) Challenge, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has invested in helping school districts and

networks redesign professional development systems to serve educators better and improve student performance. MDRC's evaluation of the iPD Challenge involves case studies and multiple rounds of surveys, document collection, and interviewing during the first three years of the initiative. This brief introduces the case study component of the evaluation and presents early findings from interviews with teachers on their beliefs about instructional improvement and useful learning opportunities.

[www.mdrc.org/sites/default/files/2015\\_iPD\\_%20Teachers\\_Voices.pdf](http://www.mdrc.org/sites/default/files/2015_iPD_%20Teachers_Voices.pdf)



### LEADING CHANGE

#### The 8-Step Process for Leading Change

*Kotter International, 2015*

In 1996, John Kotter's Leading Change introduced his 8-Step Process for Leading Change. Now Kotter has updated and expanded the scope of his process. An e-book that can be downloaded free from the Kotter International website outlines each step, explaining the contexts for the two versions. A set of diagnostic questions helps users identify their organization's specific barriers to change as well as ways to overcome them.

[www.kotterinternational.com/the-8-step-process-for-leading-change](http://www.kotterinternational.com/the-8-step-process-for-leading-change)

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