



News Wire

N.C. Principals & Assistant Principals' Association
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FROM THE NORTH STATE

GOV. PERDUE SUBMITS "RACE TO THE TOP" APPLICATION; ACHIEVES 100% PARTICIPATION FROM LOCAL PARTNERS

North Carolina has submitted its application for funding from the federal competitive grant program, Race to the Top, which encourages educational innovation and reform. North Carolina's application requests approximately \$469.5 million in federal funds to be spent over four years. This funding will help achieve the many of the goals laid out by Gov. Perdue's Career and College - Ready, Set, Go! agenda. *Office of the Governor, January 22, 2010*

NCDPI ADOPTS NEW MATH MEASURE TO BOOST STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Beginning this year, students receiving their end-of-grade and end-of-course score reports for mathematics will notice a new number beside their test grades. This new number reflects a Quantile measure and offers another way to gauge a student's math achievement level while also providing teachers and parents with an additional tool they can use to connect students with targeted instructional resources. *DPI, January 11, 2010*

IN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

OBAMA TO ASK CONGRESS FOR ADDITIONAL \$1.35 BILLION NEXT YEAR FOR EDUCATION REFORM PROGRAM

President Barack Obama announced Tuesday he'll ask Congress for \$1.35 billion to extend an education grant program for states, saying that getting schools right "will shape our future as a nation." The president said that extending the program would allow more states to win grants. He also wants to use some of the \$1.35 billion for a similarly competitive grant program for local school districts. *The Chicago Tribune, January 19, 2010*

SCHOOLS WEIGH IN ON NATIONAL BROADBAND PLAN

To help provide broadband access to more citizens, the Federal Communications Commission should expand the eligible uses of e-Rate discounts to include after-school programs and community centers, many school leaders and education groups say -- but only if the \$2.25 billion-a-year funding cap also is raised. The federal stimulus package that Congress passed last year directed the FCC to submit a National Broadband Plan to lawmakers by Feb. 17, but FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski has asked for a one-month extension so the agency can comb through the vast number of public comments it has received over the past year as it has gathered input on how to make universal broadband a reality. *eSchool News, January 15, 2010*

FROM THE NORTH STATE

- Gov. Perdue Submits "Race to the Top" Application; Achieves 100% Participation from Local Partners
- NCDPI Adopts New Math Measure to Boost Student Achievement

IN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT:

- Obama to Ask Congress for Additional \$1.35 Billion Next Year for Education Reform Program
- Schools Weigh in on National Broadband Plan

ACROSS THE NATION:

- Study Finds Boom in Media use Among Youth
- Foreign Languages Fade in Class — Except Chinese
- Helping Haiti
- Indianapolis Public Schools Replace Textbooks with Digital Content
- Cyberbullying Leads to Suspension of 28 Middle-Schoolers

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ACROSS THE NATION

CYBERBULLYING LEADS TO SUSPENSION OF 28 MIDDLE-SCHOOLERS

Twenty-eight students at McClure Middle School in Seattle have been suspended for allegedly bullying a classmate on the Internet. School administrators learned about a Facebook page targeting the victim and investigated, said Seattle Public Schools spokeswoman Patti Spencer. The students were suspended for two to eight days, depending on their alleged level of involvement. Spencer said there were no threats involved, but if there had been, the district would have contacted Seattle police. She said she didn't know how much, or what exactly, was written about the targeted student. *The Seattle Times*, January 15, 2010



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STUDY FINDS BOOM IN MEDIA USE AMONG YOUTH

The amount of time young people spend with entertainment media has risen dramatically, especially among minority youth, according to a study released Thursday by the Kaiser Family Foundation. The study found that 8-to-18-year-olds devote an average of 7 hours and 38 minutes to using entertainment media across a typical day and more than 53 hours a week. The amount of time spent with media increased by 1 hour and 17 minutes a day over the past five years. *News 14 Carolina*, January 21, 2010

FOREIGN LANGUAGES FADE IN CLASS — EXCEPT CHINESE

Thousands of public schools stopped teaching foreign languages in the last decade, according to a government-financed survey — dismal news for a nation that needs more linguists to conduct its global business and diplomacy. But another contrary trend has educators and policy makers abuzz: a rush by schools in all parts of America to offer instruction in Chinese. *The New York Times*, January 20, 2010

HELPING HAITI

NASSP and its student programs, NASC, NHS, NJHS, and NEHS, join the world in noting the devastating impact of the recent earthquake in Haiti. We are saddened by the toll this natural catastrophe has taken on the population of our Caribbean neighbor and send our wishes to our friends and colleagues in Haiti for strength and hope as they cope with the realities of this disaster. We encourage all of our members (principals and assistant principals, student councils, and Honor Societies) to respond, as you so often do when disasters strike, with fundraising and donations to the organization of your choice. *NASSP*, January 19, 2010

INDIANAPOLIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS REPLACE TEXTBOOKS WITH DIGITAL CONTENT

In a pilot program announced at FETC 2010 in Orlando, 12 schools in the Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) system will replace traditional textbooks with digital content. The program also includes curriculum alignment services, professional development, and hardware. The company's curriculum alignment team analyzed the IPS district pacing guides and chose the digital content that it determined was most appropriate for IPS, including audio and video segments, images, articles, games, and interactive resources. *The Journal*, January 15, 2010

News Wire is a publication of the N.C. Principals & Assistant Principals' Association
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