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The EDifier

How to turn around a turnaround school The push is on to turn around the nation's lowest-performing schools. As a matter of fact, the feds are offering \$3.5 billion—that's right, billion—in Title I school improvement money with the understanding that those receiving the money will use one of four turnaround models to fix their schools. Here at the Center, we [...]

Research the blueprint The time has finally come. Earlier this week President Obama sent his "blueprint" to revise the No Child Left Behind Act up to Capital Hill. The major shift in accountability is the proposal to move from expecting students to be "proficient" by 2014 to the expectation students will be "college- and career-ready" by 2020. Furthermore, the [...]

Algebra II helps electricians, too According to an article in the Jackson Clarion-Ledger, Mississippi students who don't want to go to college may soon have the option to earn a "career-track" diploma, if House Bill 1210 becomes law. If I've read the bill correctly, a "career-track" diploma would only require students to pass Algebra I before graduating. Since the politicians quoted [...]

Getting to know the new national standards Earlier today, the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and the National Governors Association (NGA) released a draft of the K-12 common standards. All but two states (Alaska and Texas) have signed onto the common core standards initiative but this is our first look at the proposed K-12 standards. And if you have an [...]

Some Morning Joe and Charter Schools As usual, I had my daily Morning Joe while eating breakfast this morning. No, not the caffeinated version, but the MSNBC version with Joe Scarborough and friends. What got my attention as I was eating my English muffin and drinking my OJ was their discussion about a recent charter school study by Caroline Hoxby that found [...]

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