



New Tools for a New School Year

School is back in session and teachers and students are hard at work focusing on the academic goals of the year to come. Teaching is a hard job and those who choose to work in this profession do so with a strong commitment to assure that every child reaches his or her full academic potential.

There is an important conversation happening in many communities around the Commonwealth focused on how we can better support teachers. The goal is to improve teacher effectiveness and assure that every teacher has the tools and supports he or she needs to do the best job possible. *The outcome is win-win for teachers and students.*

Strong teacher evaluation tools are a cornerstone of improving teacher effectiveness. When teachers are evaluated by trained observers or supervisors who use tools that focus on multiple measures and tie mentoring and professional development to areas that need improvement - teachers and students benefit.

Four local education agencies participated in a PA Department of Education (PDE) pilot project designed to improve our teacher evaluation system last academic year. Coupled with the work happening in the Pittsburgh Public Schools, these efforts have fueled an expanded PDE pilot that could include up to 100 LEAs this school year.

To learn more about what is happening in communities across the Commonwealth, join us at the **Making the Grade: Virtual Town Hall Meeting on November 1st**. You will be able to conveniently participate at local intermediate units across the state. Check out the Save the Date flyer at http://www.papartnerships.org/publication_files/making-the-grade-virtual-town-hall-meeting.pdf

Stay tuned for more updates from ***Making the Grade: Effective Teaching in Every Classroom.***

Save The Date

**November 1st
7 PM – 9 PM**

Making the Grade – Virtual Town Hall Meeting on Effective Teaching

Making the Grade: Effective Teaching in Every Classroom is Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children's project designed to create awareness about the importance of an effective teacher in every classroom and advance the public policies required to assure that every child benefits from effective teaching every school day.

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