

MAKING THE GRADE

EFFECTIVE TEACHING IN
EVERY CLASSROOM



Congress Takes Up Effort to Improve Teacher Effectiveness

The growing public discussion about how we can improve the effectiveness of teachers and, in turn, boost student success is prompting a healthy dialogue in Congress.

On Feb. 28, the U.S. House Education and the Workforce Committee approved [legislation](#) that requires states and school districts to craft teacher evaluation systems that use student achievement as one of the measures to determine a teacher's effectiveness.

The committee's chairman, U.S. Rep. John Kline (R-Minn.), noted the idea to have states and districts craft stronger, more meaningful teacher evaluations came not from inside the beltway, but from inside our schools.

"The policies in these bills weren't drawn up behind closed doors in Washington," Kline said. "They come from the ideas, accomplishments and creativity of superintendents, school chiefs, principals and parents around the country. These proposals have been written with the input of these leaders, who work with our children every day."

Pennsylvania already has begun looking at ways to improve teacher evaluations and teacher effectiveness. The goal is to build a meaningful evaluation system that provides productive feedback to help educators and students reach their full potential in the classroom.

The discussions taking place at the national level will help inform and shape the commonwealth's goal of ensuring every student in every classroom benefits from a truly effective teacher.

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

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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 every child benefits from effective teaching every school day.

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