

STEP UP TO SUCCESS...

A TA Initiative for Persistently Dangerous Schools, Gen I and II
Thru M. H. West & Co., Inc. for the Employment and Training Administration (ETA)
August 9, 2011 Edition

Selected News & Sound Clips for the Day*



NEWS FOR THE DAY*

City Students Outpace Peers in State Reading, Math Tests... City students outpaced their peers across the state (NY) on both math and reading tests this year — making gains even as some districts lost ground in both areas, state officials announced this morning. City third-through-eighth graders saw their proficiency rates in reading climb 1.5 % since last year — to 43.9 % — even as the state's proficiency dropped overall by 0.4 % — to 52.8%.
http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/city_students_outpace_peers_in_state_zAe8KVLwC8PqYTnEJnNual

The Download: D.C. is a Mecca for Ed Tech Startups... The Washington region has emerged as a hotbed for education technology startups, bolstered in part by its proximity to the federal government and several anchor companies who pioneered the sector. As area techies gathered last week for August's D.C. Tech Meetup, the investors and entrepreneurs in attendance discussed technology as a way to improve school performance despite budget constraints.
http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/capitalbusiness/the-download-education-tech-startups-find-fertile-ground-in-washington/2011/08/05/gIQAHDyw0I_story.html

K-12 Technology, Data Firms Thrive, Study Says... While producers of print-based curriculum and instructional materials are struggling, companies focused on technology-based instruction and tools for data collection and analysis are thriving in the K-12 market. An emphasis on accountability and data-driven decision-making in education is part of what's behind that trend.
<http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2011/08/02/37edbiz.h30.html?tkn=TXZFT97QzXIGlkn7i7MwkkIFMFfxxeV%2B%2FgaU&cmp=clp-edweek>

Despite Interventions, No-Show Students Drop Out... In Baltimore, the vast majority of kids who never finish school drop out because of extreme poverty, homelessness and a drug epidemic that has left some neighborhoods desolate and dangerous. In the toughest neighborhoods, kids miss lots of school days, and that puts them at risk of dropping out. Now, Baltimore's efforts are driven toward reaching these children early.
<http://www.npr.org/2011/07/27/138575595/despite-interventions-no-show-students-drop-out>

Overriding a Key Education Law... Secretary of Education [Arne Duncan](#) has announced that he will unilaterally override the centerpiece requirement of the [No Child Left Behind](#) school accountability law, that 100 percent of students be proficient in math and reading by 2014. He is waiving the law's proficiency requirements for states that have adopted their own testing and accountability programs and are making other strides toward better schools, he said.
http://www.nytimes.com/2011/08/08/education/08educ.html?_r=1&ref=todayspaper

SOUND CLIPS FOR THE DAY

School's Out: American's Dropout Crisis... <http://www.npr.org/series/138542241/dropping-out-the-human-face-of-an-education-crisis?ps=rs>

WEBSITE FOR THE DAY

<https://www.workforce3one.org/view/3001121349266332292/>

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