



## Report examines lessons learned from a new statewide kindergarten entry assessment

A new REL Midwest report and companion infographic present lessons learned from Illinois's first statewide administration of the Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS).

[Read more](#) →

## High hopes and higher education: Honoring Black students' aspirations

Our newest documentary, produced by the Midwest Achievement Gap Research Alliance in cooperation with Wisconsin Public Television, explores evidence-based strategies to help Black students prepare for and thrive at college.

[View the documentary](#) →

## Resource roundup: Supporting early literacy development

Early literacy achievement paves the way for later academic success. Browse these resources from the REL network and the What Works Clearinghouse to support young children's literacy development.

[Read more](#) →

## The ABCs of academic success: A focus on early literacy

Our Midwest Early Childhood Education Research Alliance is targeting early literacy, with the goal of improving children's grade 3 reading proficiency. Learn about the alliance's new research and training projects under way.

[Read more](#) →

## School boards and educational equity: Bridging research, policy, and practice

How can school boards foster and promote educational equity for Black students? We worked with the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction to develop a school board training that bridges research, policy, and practice. The training materials and a recording are available on our website.

[Read more](#) →

## Documentary on Latino students' college pathways screened for Hispanic Heritage Month

REL Midwest was honored to host a screening of our documentary *Making It: Latino Students' Pathways to College* for staff at the U.S. Department of Education in October as part of Hispanic Heritage Month.

[View the documentary](#) →

## Ask A REL

Browse the responses to recent questions submitted to our Ask A REL reference desk—then [submit a question](#) of your own!

- What research is available on the effectiveness of different instructional strategies on academic and nonacademic outcomes for [gifted students in grades K–12](#)?
- What research is available on the relationship between [personalized learning practices](#) and student outcomes in grades K–12?
- What research is available on assessment tools to [measure baseline academic skills and growth over time in students with moderate to severe autism spectrum disorders](#) in grades 6–12?

## Upcoming events

Don't miss our upcoming events this fall! All events are free and open to the public.

- **December 5: Heartbeat of the Community: Recruiting and Retaining Teachers in Rural Schools, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan** (5:00–6:30 p.m. ET). Join us for a screening of a documentary produced in cooperation with Detroit Public TV. [Register](#)

### Contact Us

Please contact us for more information about any of the items in this newsletter or to speak to a member of our staff. We look forward to hearing from you.

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