



## New documentary: Looking back to face what is ahead: District strategies to engage with English learner students, students with disabilities, and their families

Our latest public television documentary features evidence-based strategies and promising practices to support English learner students, students with disabilities, and their families during the pandemic and beyond. A viewing guide is available.

[Read more](#)

## Taking steps toward competency-based education

How can teachers ensure that all students have an opportunity to truly master the material? One method is competency-based education, an increasingly popular alternative to traditional teaching methods that focuses on student mastery of content and allows for more flexible and student-directed learning. Find out how REL Midwest is supporting the use of competency-based education in Minnesota.

[Read more](#)

## REL Midwest study explores teacher supports to promote teacher retention

Teacher shortages can hinder efforts to ensure that all students have equitable access to qualified teachers. For states and districts experiencing teacher shortages, a new REL Midwest report identifies teacher supports associated with teacher retention at the local level in Michigan.

[Read more](#)

## Report examines the use of enhanced coaching for teachers to improve early reading instruction and achievement

Proficiency in reading by the end of grade 3 is a key factor in students' later academic success. A new study from REL Midwest examined the use of enhanced coaching for teachers as part of a broader professional development initiative to improve early literacy instruction and achievement in Chicago Public Schools.

[Read more](#)

## Video on creating inclusive workplaces for Black teachers

This REL Midwest video, the second in a series, explores the importance of staffing Black teachers, the challenges that Black teachers face, and four steps that state and district leaders can take to determine what strategies will have the biggest influence on creating work environments that are culturally affirming and promote the retention of Black teachers. A viewing guide is available.

[Read more](#)

### Featured partner resource:

#### How to deal with missing and unreliable academic data due to COVID-19

Gathering and using meaningful academic data is important for teachers as they support learning recovery. But what data are teachers missing due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and what can they do about it? Read the latest blog post from the Region 9 Comprehensive Center to learn how formative checks can help educators determine which data to use and how to do so responsibly.

[Read more](#)

## Upcoming events

- **October 13: Teachers Who Aren't Teaching: Who Are They and How Do We Get Them Back? Film & Panel Discussion.** *Virtual documentary screening (3:30–4:30 p.m. ET/2:30–3:30 p.m. CT).* Join REL Midwest and Detroit Public TV for a screening of a new documentary about why certified teachers in Michigan are not teaching in public schools and what might bring them back to the classroom. A live panel discussion will take place after the screening. [Learn more](#)

- **October 26: Increasing the Reach of Career and Technical Education (CTE).** *Webinar (4 p.m. ET/3 p.m. CT).* Learn about strategies that guidance counselors and teachers can use to support CTE enrollment and success. In addition, researchers will discuss takeaways from REL Midwest's recent study on Indiana and Minnesota students who focused on CTE in high school. [Register](#)

- **November 10: Leveraging Networked Improvement Communities to Improve Student Outcomes.** *Webinar (4:00–5:30 p.m. ET/3:00–4:30 p.m. CT).* In this webinar, participants will learn how to apply the networked improvement community model to address a common problem of practice in their local context, particularly as they plan to address student learning needs this fall. [Save the date!](#)

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We look forward to hearing from you.

