



U.S. Department of Education
Promoting educational excellence for all Americans.



Office of Innovation and Improvement

"New Tools for Parents: Getting Informed and Getting Involved"

The Department's Education News Parents Can Use program will feature this topic on Tuesday, May 16, 2006, 8:00-9:00 p.m. ET.

The program will feature:

- * A discussion with Kerri Briggs, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Deputy Secretary about key policies that empower parents, including school choice, supplemental educational services, charter school expansion and opportunity scholarships.
- * A profile of the Desert Sands Unified School District (La Quinta, CA), which is leading the charge to reach out to parents and give them information on the tools they need to be successful advocates for their children. Not only does the district provide options--like magnet and charter schools and voluntary school choice--it also conducts well-planned outreach campaigns to inform parents in places that are most accessible to them, and with materials that are easily understood.
- * A segment on choosing the right school for your child--including examples of successful schools, districts and programs around choice--with Susan Schaeffler, Executive Director of KIPP D.C. and founder of KIPP's KEY Academy, the highest-performing middle school in the District; Doris Wilson, Superintendent of Desert Sands Unified; Michael Bell, Assistant Superintendent of Miami-Dade Public Schools, a national leader in voluntary public school choice design and outreach; and Catherine Hill, community activist and guardian of two Opportunity Scholarship students in Washington, D.C.
- * A profile of Toledo Public Schools, which is providing its students with the extra help they need through a comprehensive and parent-friendly supplemental educational services campaign.
- * A special discussion with the Department's Stacy Kreppel, Senior Policy Advisor to the Assistant Deputy Secretary, Office of Innovation and Improvement; Newport News, Virginia Superintendent Marcus Newsome; and Citizen Schools' Ned Rimer about how school choice and supplemental educational services empower parents to ensure their children receives the best education possible.

To view the program, and for additional resources and information, please visit:

<http://registerevent.ed.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=viewer.description&intEventID=196>

New York State Soon Accepting SES Provider Applications

Applications to become a NYS-approved SES Provider will soon be accepted. The next application period is scheduled to begin May 19, 2006. During this period, applicants will be once again invited to submit an application and their response to a "Request for Qualifications" (RFQ) to be reviewed by NYSED. After these RFQs have been reviewed, approved applicants will be placed in NYSED's "Approved Supplemental Educational Services Provider" (ASESP) catalog. An optional Orientation Session for Provider Applicants will be held in NYC on May 19, 2006. (Register for this session via website.)

See: <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/nyc/SES/SES.html#ProviderInfo> for more information.

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