



# Success

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Timely tips for OSBA Student Achievement Liaisons

June 2004

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## **June resource is online**

The usual resource you find in your June Student Achievement Liaison mailing is different this month; it is posted on the OSBA Web site. OSBA filmed James Mahoney, Battelle for Kids executive director, as he explained the Battelle for Kids program. Please see the insert for more information on how to view the video and download the six student achievement guides. Go to [www.osba-ohio.org/battelleforkids.htm](http://www.osba-ohio.org/battelleforkids.htm).

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## **School libraries increase student achievement**

Effective school libraries can help students learn, according to a recently released study. The Ohio Educational Library Media Association reported that 13,050 students who responded to a survey indicated that “the school library and its services, including the roles of school librarians, have helped them in some way, regardless of how much, with their learning, in and out of school.” The top five ways students receive help in the library are (in order): getting information, computers, using information, knowledge building and achievement. To view the complete study, visit: <http://www.oelma.org/StudentLearning/SLFindings.asp>.

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## **Summer school report**

Many districts have broad summer education programs. Have your summer school director report on this summer’s district activities. Find out what classes are the most effective in improving achievement.

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## **SALT Web page moves**

When OSBA redesigned its Web site, the Student Achievement Leadership Team’s Web page moved to: [www.osba-ohio.org/sa.htm](http://www.osba-ohio.org/sa.htm).

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## **Student achievement forum is up and running**

One new feature of the OSBA Web site is a forum for board members and administrators. Go to the SALT Web page and click on the link below “Student Achievement Forum.” First-time users will need to register, so click on the word “register” at the top and fill in the required information. Post a question, comment or success story, and wait for replies. Encourage all board members to register and participate in discussions on how to improve student achievement.

# Student achievement research brief

Each month, **Success** brings you a research brief to share with fellow board members. Use it to generate discussion with the board and staff.

## National board certification does make a difference in student achievement

In a recent study, an independent research team found that National Board Certified Teachers (NBCT) are far more likely to improve student achievement than those teachers without such certification. The study measured achievement by North Carolina's standardized testing system.

The research team, which used a sophisticated value-added model built from 600,000 North Carolina elementary student test scores during a 3-year period, was led by labor economist **Dan Goldhaber** of the University of Washington and the Urban Institute. The findings provide direct evidence that the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) is identifying and certifying teachers who will raise student achievement. The study could be used to put to rest the controversy surrounding the purpose of national certification.

Students of NBCTs scored an average of 7% higher on their year-end reading and math tests than those students who had teachers who had attempted gaining certification, but failed. Lower-income and younger students had gains as high as 15% when taught by an NBCT. This is the first study to link national board certification to student achievement on standardized tests.

The study concluded that NBCTs:

- are more effective at raising student achievement than teachers who pursue, but fail to obtain, NBPTS certification;
- are more effective at raising student achievement — outside of the year in which they apply — than teachers who do not pursue NBPTS certification;
- have a greater impact with younger students;
- have a greater impact with low-income students.

The research also showed a correlation between teacher characteristics and student achievement. The researchers found that “years of teaching experience and having a master’s degree (and a) continuous teaching license from the state” had a positive effect on test scores for reading and math.

Source: Southeast Center for Teaching Quality, Chapel Hill, NC,  
[www.teachingquality.org/resources/html/NBPTS\\_Goldhaber.htm](http://www.teachingquality.org/resources/html/NBPTS_Goldhaber.htm)

### **Success**

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