

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction
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Are YOU Concerned About Making Adequate Yearly Progress?

Then, Look To The RESEARCH!

☪ Instructional Practices Associated with Higher Levels of Student Achievement

McREL researchers identified nine categories of instructional strategies that have a high probability of improving student achievement.

www.mcrel.org/Newsroom/hottopicInstruction.asp

☪ Early Intervention (i.e., Preschool, Junior Kindergarten)

Research over the last 20 years (Reynolds 2000) has provided evidence that children who attend high quality Early Childhood Education programs:

- ✓ Perform better in reading and math throughout elementary grades;
- ✓ Are less likely to be held back a grade;
- ✓ Are less likely to require special education;
- ✓ Are less likely to present discipline problems; and
- ✓ Are more likely to be enthusiastic about school and have good school attendance.

Go to www.promisingpractices.net/research_ready.asp and www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/earlychild/kindergarten.pdf to access additional research on the effectiveness of early childhood education.

☪ High Quality After School Programs Tied to Test Score Gains

Research shows that students who regularly attend top-notch after school programs end up academically far ahead of peers who spend more out-of-school time in unsupervised activities.

www.policystudies.com/studies/youth/Promising%20Programs%20FINAL.pdf

There is also a lot of information on the Title I website at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/research/aftrschl/index.shtm on what makes after school programs effective.

☞ **More Time in Class Equals Better Results**

The idea that more time in school produces better results could get a small boost from a *Brookings Institution* report. The study finds adding 10 minutes of math instruction to an 8th grader's day translates into a jump in math skills.

www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2007/1211_education_loveless/1211_education_loveless.pdf

☞ **Teachers Seen as Making a Difference in the World's Top Schools**

The world's top performing school systems and those coming up fast have a lesson to teach the others: Put high quality teaching for every child at the heart of school improvement.

A new report in Education Week from McKinsey & Company finds that school success depends largely on teachers.

www.mckinsey.com/client-service/social-sector/resources/pdf/Worlds_School_Systems_Final.pdf

Additional research on the input of highly qualified teachers can be accessed at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/research.shtm on the Title I website.

☞ **Individualized/Differentiated Instruction**

There is research to support both differentiating instruction (Tomlinson, C., 2000) and individualizing instruction (Coulter, G., 2004) as powerful methods of raising student achievement. An Individual Learning Plan (ILP) can be a valuable tool for educators to use in differentiating and individualizing instruction to help schools attain the ultimate goal of raising student achievement.

Access www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/resource/individual/individual.shtm on the Title I website for additional information on ILP's.

☞ **Parental Involvement**

Whether or not parental involvement can improve student outcomes is no longer in question. Research on the effects of parental involvement has shown a consistent, positive relationship between parents' engagement in their children's education and student outcomes.

The research shows that when parents become involved in children's education, the results include one or more of the following:

- ✓ Higher grades and test scores;
- ✓ Better attendance and regularly completed homework;
- ✓ Fewer placements in special education or remedial classes;
- ✓ More positive attitudes and behavior in school;
- ✓ Higher graduation rates; and
- ✓ Greater enrollment in post-secondary education.

Go on to our parent website at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/parent/index.shtm and scroll down to "What Research Says about Parental Involvement". This resource links to an outstanding handout on the Michigan Department of Education's website.