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Good afternoon!

Here is our weekly education update:

Did you hear the news? The state of Washington lost its waiver from the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). Why? Because lawmakers there did not approve a “simple change,” which required adding significant measures of student growth to educator evaluations. Newspaper editorials across the state criticized the lack of action, with one columnist noting it was a “small issue” with “massive consequences.” Here in South Carolina, we face similar concerns if the state’s educator evaluation system is not updated to include significant measures of student growth, which is a key component to maintaining the state’s waiver from NCLB. The State Board of Education is scheduled to vote on the issue on June 11.

You **have** to read this [link](#).

The State published Dr. Zais’ letter to the editor entitled: “[College prep isn’t for everyone.](#)”

We reposted the U.S. Department of Education’s blog post entitled “[Stopping the Summer Slide](#)” – it has some great resources about keeping our students learning over the summer.

Dr. Zais was proud to join Governor Nikki R. Haley and Congressman Joe Wilson for the Teacher of the Year gala. If you followed us on Twitter that evening, you know how exciting that was! We were honored to join hands with South Carolina Future Minds to organize the celebration. But don’t worry if you missed it – check out this [three-minute video](#) of the event! ICYMI: here are the [profiles](#) of all five finalists (scroll down the page for their videos).

For those of you interested in adult education, check out our latest [podcast](#), which discusses the computerized GED test.

Dr. Zais was pleased to moderate an SCETV Program Entitled “In Our Schools: Personalizing Education.” This show was taped in January and is available to view on [YouTube](#) – featuring the following panelists:

- Victoria Dixon-Mokeba, Director of Carolina School for Inquiry;
- Pamela Lackey, AT&T SC President and Chairwoman of the SC Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors;
- Ellen Weaver, President of the Palmetto Policy Forum; and
- Meka Childs, former Deputy Superintendent of Education for School Effectiveness at the Department.

Dr. Zais would like you to read this op-ed from the *Wall Street Journal* entitled “The Vital Link of Education and Prosperity.” In it, Stanford professor Eric Hanushek and Harvard professor Paul Peterson argue that improving test scores can dramatically improve our nation’s GDP – read the piece [here](#).

Lastly – we won an award for [best social media](#) in the state in 2013 – please make sure you connect with us!

[Twitter](#)
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Have a great week!

Regards,
Dino

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