



The "*Hot Topics in US-China Education*" is a free, monthly email service that watches for "what is hot" in K-12 US and Chinese education. This service targets educators, administrators, researchers, and parents interested in issues of excellence in education in the US and China. The articles presented in this listserv are organized according to the following five dimensions of education: 1) Teachers and Teaching, 2) Learners and Learning, 3) Leaders and Leadership, 4) Curriculum, and 5) Family and Community. Under each category, you can access the full story by clicking on the story title.

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**July, 2006**

### **I. Teachers and Teaching**

1. [A costly lesson in supply and demand](#)

*July 17<sup>th</sup>, Monday, 2006, from Los Angeles Times*

The Los Angeles Unified School District plans to spend millions to train, recruit and keep math and science teachers.

2. [China and U.S. cooperate to train rural teachers](#)

*July 25<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday, from Xinhua Net*

China and the United States started a training program for the country's rural teachers on July 24<sup>th</sup>, in Chengdu, capital of southwestern Sichuan Province. The program, jointly sponsored by the U.S. company Starbucks and the China Soong Ching-ling Foundation (SCLF), mainly focuses on training for primary school teachers in remote areas in western China, providing them with up-to-date teaching skills and techniques.

### **II. Learners and Learning**

1. [Lesson in democracy](#)

*July 22<sup>nd</sup>, Saturday, from Philadelphia Inquirer*

Students and faculty cast votes for the colors, mascot and motto of their new Constitution High School.

2. [Hong Kong universities draw top mainland students](#)

*July 13<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, from Xinhua News Agency*

Universities in Hong Kong have witnessed a sudden spurt in popularity on the mainland, as more students who achieved maximum scores at this year's National College Entrance Examinations (NCEE) are choosing to attend university in Hong Kong instead of prestigious mainland universities like Qinghua University and Beijing University.

### III. Leaders and Leadership

#### 1. [School board adopts tighter truancy policy](#)

*July 22<sup>nd</sup>, Saturday, from Washington Times*

The D.C. public school system has adopted a new, more stringent attendance policy to curtail truancy and absenteeism.

#### 2. [China promises to ensure college entrance for poor freshmen](#)

*July 25<sup>th</sup>, from Xinhua Net*

With enrollment letters being delivered to college candidates, China's Ministry of Education pledged on Tuesday that the government would ensure every poor student could enter college even if they do not have the money for tuition fees.

### IV. Curriculum

#### 1. [Officials warn of likely setback on testing](#)

*July 28<sup>th</sup>, Friday, from Washington Post*

Preliminary Data Show More Elementary Schools Failing to Meet U.S. Targets

Preliminary data from a student assessment exam show that more elementary schools fail to meet federal academic targets in math and reading.

#### 2. [Sishu: the private schooling in China](#)

*July 13<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, from Xin Jing Bao*

Sishu used to be the traditional form of education in China before 1949. In these days, public schooling is the most popular form of education. Recently, there occur some new types of Sishu in Shanghai, which aim at integrating the traditional education into model schooling.

### V. Family and Community

#### 1. [Why parents should share dollars with kids](#)

*July 28<sup>th</sup>, Friday, from USAtoday*

The fallout continues over Warren Buffett's recent decision to give most of his multibillion dollar fortune to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, rather than leaving it to his three grown children.

#### 2. [Parents send children to golf training for high-class manners](#)

*July 26<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday, from Xinhua*

Golf training courses for children are booming in Beijing. Parents are falling over themselves to send their children to high-class sport training to cultivate high-class manners.

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