

OECD *IMPROVING SCHOOL LEADERSHIP* ACTIVITY NEWSLETTER NO. 9: LONG RANGE IMPACT

MAY 2009

This is the ninth newsletter of the OECD *Improving School Leadership* Activity conducted by the Education and Training Policy Division. In the last newsletter (November 2008), we mentioned our interest in following up on school leadership developments. In this newsletter, we update you on recent events, outline our efforts to follow country developments in school leadership policy, and invite country coordinators to participate in an informal follow-up designed to gauge the impact of our report and recommendations on school leadership policy and practice.

Publications, Dissemination and Media Response

The updated numbers on sales of the two ISL final publications are as follows:

- *Improving School Leadership, Volume 1: Policy and Practice* (2860)
- *Improving School Leadership, Volume 2: Case Studies on System Leadership* (2156)

For free access to OECD publications on SourceOECD (www.sourceoecd.org) throughout 2009, please use this username: **eduoecd2009** and password: **10209**. These are available to you as part of our professional network and should not be posted on the Internet.

The French versions of the books were published in March 2009:

- *Améliorer la direction des établissements scolaires, Volume 1: Politiques et pratiques*
- *Améliorer la direction des établissements scolaires, Volume 2: Études de cas sur la direction des systèmes*

Translations of the reports are underway in Japanese, Lithuanian, Spanish and Swedish.

The *Toolkit for Policy Makers and Practitioners*: We plan to finalise the tool kit and make it available by fall 2009.

The Toolkit has been presented by Louise Stoll and used at the International Confederation of Principals (ICP) Council Meeting in Windsor, England (November 2008) and at the ESHA General Board in Dublin (March 2009). <http://www.icponline.org/images/stories/regions/esharesponsetooecd20090520.pdf>

Education Alliance Quarterly, Volume 2 (January/February 2009), devoted to “leadership in the learning society,” features an interview with Barbara Ischinger, Director of the OECD Directorate for Education.

“Creating effective teaching and learning environments: first results from the OECD Teaching and Learning International Survey”, is to be released on 16 June 2009. Several ISL participant countries have also been a part of the TALIS survey. TALIS is an international survey which explores teacher practices and beliefs, professional development, and performance appraisal and rewards. One chapter of the forthcoming report is devoted to the analysis of school leadership.

Conferences, seminars and workshops

Windsor, England, November 2008 - International Confederation of Principals (ICP) Council Meeting. Louise Stoll presented the Improving School Leadership Toolkit and provided facilitation to identify the key messages and the follow-up recommendations for system leadership.

Hildesheim, Germany, 1-3 December 2008– Deborah Nusche served as a keynote speaker at the “The Making of Leadership in Education” conference, sponsored by the European Qualification Network for Effective School Leadership.

Mexico City, 8 December 2008 – Beatriz Pont presented the key findings of *Improving School Leadership*, with discussion of the topic and implications for Mexico at “*Calidad Educativa*”, a conference on Improving the Quality in Education jointly organised by the OECD Directorate for Education and the Mexican Secretariat of Public Education. More information at: www.oecd.org/edu/calidadeducativa.

Thessaloniki, Greece, 23-24 February 2009 – Deborah Nusche gave a presentation at the CEDEFOP Conference “Teachers and Trainers at the Heart of Innovation and VET Reforms”. She participated in a workshop on leadership in Vocational Education and Training (VET) and discussed the implications of the ISL report for the VET sector.

Ankara, Turkey, 9-10 April 2009 – Bernard Hugonnier, Deputy Director of the Directorate for Education and Deborah Nusche participated in “High Time for a Change in School Leadership: Innovative, Improving and Distributed School Leadership”, an ISL dissemination conference organised by the Turkish Ministry of National Education.

Budapest, Hungary, 29 May 2009 – Beatriz Pont will speak on “Improving School Leadership: the Outcomes of the OECD Thematic Review” at “School Leadership for Educational Innovation in the 21st Century Europe”, a conference organised in Hungary in the framework of an institutionalized regional cooperation among the ministries responsible for education in the countries of Austria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia and Slovenia.

Lisbon, Portugal, 8 June 2009 – Beatriz Pont will present the findings on Improving School Leadership and their implications for Portugal at the Fundación Calouste Gulbenkian in a conference for policy makers and interested stakeholders.

Gauging Country Progress and ISL Impact: A Survey and Networking Opportunity

Newsletter n. 8 reported on the many ways in which the ISL activity is having an impact on school leadership policy. According to many country coordinators, governments have developed new insights, robust public and professional dialogue was taking place, and some countries were formally undertaking new policy initiatives. No doubt more has occurred in the ensuing months. In line with our commitment to the ISL Network and belief that all of you (and we too) have much to contribute to and learn from one another, we invite all country coordinators to participate in a follow-up activity designed to identify developments in school leadership policy, assess the impact of ISL in our countries, and enable you to share accomplishments and learn from the experiences of one another. We anticipate a data-rich and highly interactive activity that will be both enjoyable and productive, with the intent of promoting and enhancing the improvement of school leadership in your countries.

The key elements of the follow-up activity are as follows:

- A survey to explore your views of the course of school leadership policy reform in your country, the impact of ISL, and your suggestions for further networking, among other content.
- One or more reports prepared by ISL staff synthesising the survey findings and identifying issues and opportunities for effective school leadership improvement.
- Possibly online interaction around these issues and opportunities, perhaps as chat sessions, forums, and “webinars” (combined online and telephone conferencing).

Other possible elements to the activity include group presentations at international conferences and other dissemination of country accomplishments, experiences, and networking.

We are aiming to send you the survey within the coming weeks to have results to allow us to have information in response to the publication of the first TALIS findings on teachers and school leadership. Continued OECD analysis and networking would be able to proceed thereafter. We know that each of you has plenty of work to keep you busy, but we hope you will be able to make time to return the completed survey to us within two weeks of receiving it.

Many thanks in advance. In the meantime, we would be happy to hear from you with any questions or suggestions concerning the follow-up activity. Please feel free to contact Hunter Moorman specifically regarding the survey and networking and either Beatriz Pont or Deborah Nusche concerning ISL more broadly.

ISL Staff news

- **Beatriz Pont** is now Senior Analyst, Education Policy Implementation, Education and Training Policy Division (beatriz.pont@oecd.org).
- **Deborah Nusche** continues her work as Policy Analyst for the OECD Thematic Review on Migrant Education (deborah.nusche@oecd.org).
- **Hunter Moorman** continues as a member of the ISL team and is taking the lead responsibility for the follow-up on ISL impact (huntermoorman@earthlink.net).
- **Susan Copeland** continues her work in communications for the Education and Training Policy Division (susan.copeland@oecd.org).
- **Jennifer Gouby** is now supporting the OECD Policy Review of Vocational Education and Training, *Learning for Jobs* (jennifer.gouby@oecd.org).