

Welcome Video Transcript

Hello everyone. Welcome to our fall newsletter issue. We're trying out a new format for the newsletter with this issue and adding a short welcome video. Technology use is becoming quite the buzz, and we thought we would give it a try with this issue.

My name is Barb Youngren, and I'm the director of the Great Lakes East Comprehensive Center at American Institutes for Research. We're in the second month of our year seven grant for the comprehensive center, working specifically with the states of Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio.

This is an exciting time for education, and it has sparked an unprecedented waiver application process initiated by Secretary Duncan for all states and territories. The waiver is the focus of our fall 2011 newsletter. Paul Kimmelman's feature article, "A Cautionary View of NCLB Flexibility and Waivers" presents both the expectations of the application and also some caveats that might pose challenges as states apply for the waiver. The article also includes several key examples of education reform efforts in our states and how Great Lakes East has partnered with Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio for quite some time to work on these.

Check out also the quarterly state updates; they give details of our current work that's happening in our states and how Great Lakes East has been supporting the SEAs in this work. The resource section is also most current and gives access to information and/or articles with a simple click.

I hope you enjoy this issue and find it most relevant to your current work on waivers. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to our continued work with Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio. If you have comments to share or questions to ask, please contact us at greatlakeseastinfo@air.org or at the Contact Us button at the bottom of our website.

Thanks, and the best of luck as you write your applications!