



November 2011

Contact Us

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Connect with us!

Do you have access to standards based videoconferencing? If so, please contact [Sarah Altemus](#)

Hello!

We hope that you and your students had a safe and Happy Halloween!

DeSoto ISD, a North Star Community member from the Dallas, Texas area is this month's example of a wonderful best practice that I would like to highlight. This district is highlighting all of their Process and Performance Management work under the banner of "***DeSoto ISD Transformation Voyage: A Journey of Continuous Improvement.***" They will feature this on their website with a video message from the Superintendent, a couple of video messages from us here at APQC Education and the progress and results of their process improvement teams. This stands out to me as a best practice because I've seen so many districts work so hard on continuous improvement but then fail to communicate this great work. So kudos to Ms. Levatta Levels and her team at DeSoto for creating a wonderfully transparent and well-communicated plan for improving their district!

Read on for other items in this month's newsletter, including:

- Registration information for the 2012 APQC Education PPM Conference – a great way to see the North Star Community in action
- Information about our latest Benchmarking Study – *Best Practices in Evaluating the Impact of Instructional Coaching on Teaching and Learning* and the new product Benchmarking-in-a-Box
- Learn about a new professional development opportunity!

Kindest Regards,
Fred A. Bentsen
Executive Director, Sales
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SAVE THE DATE or REGISTER NOW! Annual PPM Conference

You won't want to miss this exciting conference, where education leaders provide the latest success stories for process improvement in 2011! We are pleased to announce that the keynote speaker will be Dr. Heath Morrison, Superintendent of the Washoe County School District in Nevada.

The conference is scheduled for **February 22 - 23, 2011** with pre-session professional development the afternoon of **February 21**. Mark your calendars now! For more information and to register, [click here!](#)

Benchmarking and Best Practices

Would you like to learn how "best-in-class" districts are approaching tough problems and adapting best practice solutions? APQC Education can offer you best practices on challenging topics such as developing online courses, evaluating the impact of instructional coaching, and effectively using data in the classroom. As members of the North Star Community, final reports from all of our studies are available to you for FREE!

[Click here for a full list](#)

Additionally, APQC Education is now offering an enhanced benchmarking product - *Benchmarking in a Box!* It will provide your staff with a comprehensive professional development experience. The package includes:

1. A final report of the benchmarking study
2. A set of Knowledge Objects (concise, compelling snippets of data and information from the study)
3. Recordings of power point presentations from each of the best practice partner virtual site visits
4. Facilitation guidelines for using the package

Benchmarking in a Box is now available for *Assessing the Impact of Instructional Coaching on Teaching and Learning* and is available to North Star Community members for a fee. Contact saltemus@apqc.org for more information.

NEW Professional Development Offering

Metrics Alignment

We are now offering a one-day professional development workshop on discovering and using the right metrics to implement and sustain strategic initiatives. Grab a team and learn about the high level challenges for aligning metrics in an educational organization and learn some tips for how to improve your measurement systems! Be sure to listen to Senior advisor Greg Gibbs' webinar on Metrics Alignment [here](#).

For more information, or to schedule a session, contact Carolyn Talasek at ctalasek@apqc.org.



Global Education Roundtables

*Process and Performance Management
in Education*

At this one day meeting in Washington D.C., leaders from different sectors gathered to discuss Process and Performance Management as a tool to improve education. Representatives from all levels of the education industry joined leaders from business, healthcare, government and military to address problems and opportunities. Be sure to download the presentations and watch a recording of the live-stream of the event [here](#).



Distinguished Lecture TASA/TASB Convention



APQC Founder and CEO Dr. Jack Grayson delivered a distinguished lecture at the recent TASA/TASB Convention in Austin, Texas titled *What Lies Beneath: Uncovering Waste in District Operations*. You can download the presentation [here](#). If you have any questions or are interested in learning more about the topics and tools presented in this lecture feel free to contact Fred Bentsen, APQC Education Executive Director, at fbentsen@apqc.org



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