

## Administrative Memo

**Date:** July 24, 2014  
**To:** School Administrators  
**From:** Paul Katnik, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Educator Quality  
**Subject:** EQ-14-005 – Educator Growth Toolbox

On July 14, 2014, the Department launched the *Educator Growth Toolbox*. The Toolbox is a web-based resource for educators. Educators can access materials, organized by topic, to develop effective practices, to support quality educator evaluations, and to help administrators navigate the current policy landscape relative to educator effectiveness. The Toolbox brings together a number of new resources as well as resources previously available across the Department’s website in a single location. The Toolbox is accessible through the Department’s website at <http://dese.mo.gov/educator-growth-toolbox>.

While new content is available throughout the Toolbox, two pages merit particular emphasis—“Student Growth Data” and “Professional Learning.” By 2015-16, all school districts and charter schools must include student growth measures as a contributing factor in their local educator evaluation process. On the “Student Growth Data” page, a section on Student Learning Objectives (SLOs) presents guidance for developing student growth measures suitable for use in teacher performance evaluations, including teachers of non-standardized-tested grades and subjects. Regional service providers will be offering training opportunities this fall to support local implementation of the SLO process.

On the “Professional Learning,” page, educators will find the all-new “Teacher Resources by Standard” page, a catalog of external resources specifically linked to each of the nine Missouri Teacher Standards. Also being developed is an “Effective Practices Video Library,” which will house video clips of acclaimed Missouri educators modeling effective instructional strategies.

The Toolbox will be presented on July 28 at the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Cooperative Conference for School Administrators. The conference session will focus on resources of particular interest to administrators, including resources for evaluator training and on using student growth data in the evaluation process. Also, a webinar will be held on August 6 at 9:00 a.m. to provide an overview of the Toolbox. The recorded webinar will be available for review after that time. Questions, comments, and suggestions regarding the Toolbox should be directed to [EducatorQuality@dese.mo.gov](mailto:EducatorQuality@dese.mo.gov).