

TO: Online Managers for CreativeCurriculum.net  
FR: Jan Thelen, NDE and Barb Jackson, MMI  
RE: **Teaching Strategies GOLD**

Greetings! We have good news about Teaching Strategies GOLD!!

As you may know, Teaching Strategies has developed a new child assessment tool called *Teaching Strategies GOLD*, which will replace the Creative Curriculum Developmental Continuum in summer, 2011. In April, the Nebraska Results Matter Task Force met with a group of Creative Curriculum users from across the state (school district teachers, administrators, Head Start representatives, higher ed faculty and trainers) to complete a review of GOLD to determine if it met Nebraska's criteria for use as a Results Matter child measurement tool. Attached is a summary of key points of that review.

After careful consideration, the Results Matter Task Force recommended that NDE adopt Teaching Strategies GOLD as one of Nebraska's three online child assessment tools, replacing Creative Curriculum. NDE has approved the recommendation!

**What are our options for 2010-11? When do we have to switch?**

Not right away, but within one year. *Teaching Strategies GOLD™* will launch in July 2010. School districts and Head Start agencies may elect to make the switch now, beginning with the 2010-11 subscription year, or wait one year. **The subscription rate will remain the same for GOLD as for CreativeCurriculum.net.** After the summer of 2011, Teaching Strategies will only offer and support *Teaching Strategies GOLD™*.

For 2010-11, school districts and Head Start agencies may select one of the following options:

**OPTION 1:** Start with GOLD in the 2010-11 subscription year.

**OPTION 2:** Continue to use the Creative Curriculum Developmental Continuum and CreativeCurriculum.net for one more year and start with GOLD in the 2011-12 subscription year.

**What about all the data we've entered into CreativeCurriculum.net?**

All data will be seamlessly transferred from CreativeCurriculum.net to *Teaching Strategies GOLD™*, ensuring continuity and protection of your current data. You will not have to re-enter any of your data. You will still be able to access your progress checkpoint information from previous years, but this data will not be converted into a new rating on *GOLD™*. All your observations previously entered and photos uploaded will still be at your fingertips.

**What kind of training or professional development will I need and how will I get it?**

Teaching Strategies is designing a variety of professional development options, including online courses, webinars, and phone support. NDE will be working with Teaching Strategies to develop and provide in-person training during 2010-11.

**Will there be a discount for purchasing GOLD print materials under the NDE umbrella?** Yes. Teaching Strategies is offering a 15% discount on print materials for users under the NDE umbrella. For example,

the price of the GOLD Toolkit is \$199.95, and Nebraska users will receive 15% off list price. All print materials will also be available to download online. **It is important that districts order an ample number of Toolkits** for their teachers, depending on the size of the program, number of classrooms, location of staff, etc. in order to assure that print materials are readily accessible.

**More questions about GOLD?** Please visit <http://www.teachingstrategies.com/page/GOLD.cfm> to sign up for an online webinar, review Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and more! If you have questions that aren't answered in the FAQs, please e-mail [GOLD@TeachingStrategies.com](mailto:GOLD@TeachingStrategies.com) or call 1-800-637-3652 and choose option 4.

**THANK YOU!** Our thanks to everyone who has consulted with us over these past few months about making the conversion to GOLD. We look forward to working with you to make this transition as smooth as possible. If you have any questions, please contact one of us:

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