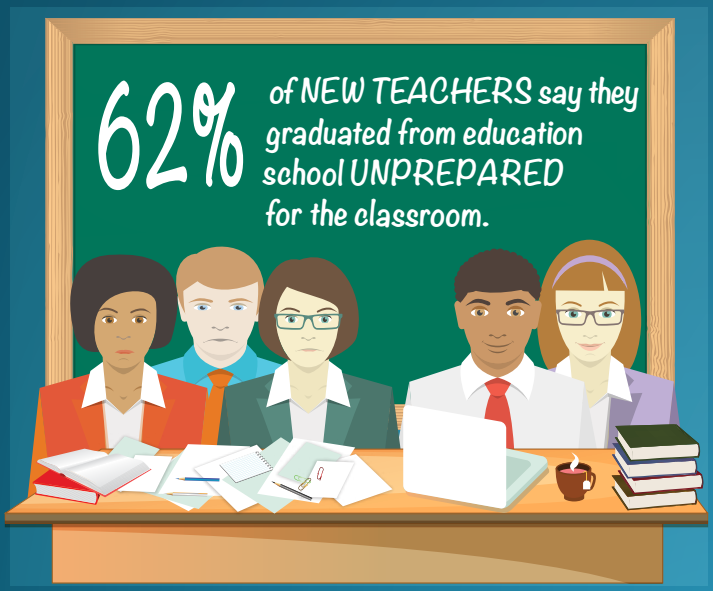
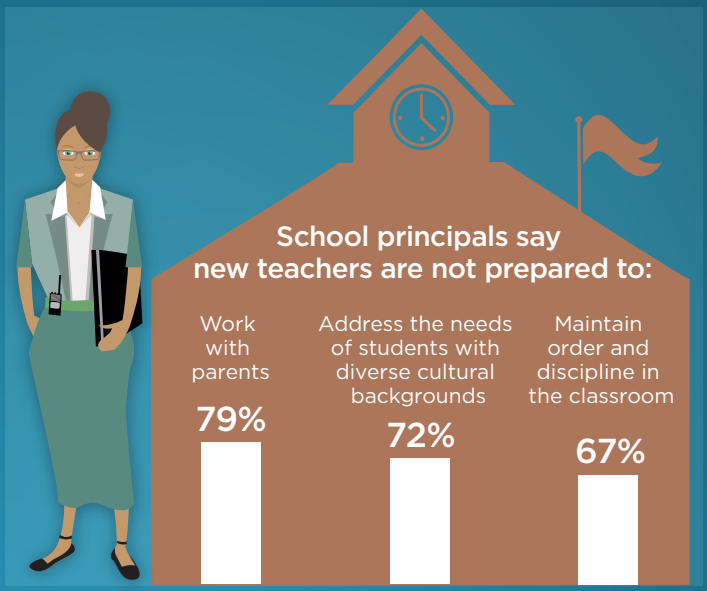
LET'S PREPARE THE NEXT GENERATION OF GREAT TEACHERS TO BE READY FOR AMERICA'S CLASSROOMS

Providing all children in America with the opportunity to get a world-class education is critical for their success and the success of our nation, and there is no more important factor in successful schools than having a great teacher in every classroom. But far too many teachers report they are unprepared when they first enter the classroom after completing their teacher preparation program.





State exams to get a teaching license are too easy—96% of candidates pass.

Our teaching force does not reflect the increasing diversity of America's students.

40% of students are African American or Hispanic.

Only **15%** of teachers are.

PRESIDENT OBAMA IS TAKING ACTION TO IMPROVE TEACHER PREPARATION

Here's the good news: Strong educator preparation programs exist across the country, and new and innovative approaches are making preparation more hands-on and relevant. President Obama's goal is to encourage and support states in developing systems that recognize excellence and provide all kinds of programs with information to help them improve, while holding them accountable for how well they prepare teachers to succeed in today's classrooms. The focus needs to shift to the outcomes that matter, like job placement and retention rates for a program's graduates, their employers' satisfaction and their own, and, most importantly, how a program's graduates measurably help students learn. These and other critical changes will better equip the new teacher pipeline to meet the growing and changing needs of America's schools.

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