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Sommario/riassunto	The Third International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) is a rich source of information that can be used by a broad range of stakeholders to promote discussions and actions to improve K-12 mathematics and science teaching and learning. To support educators, administrators, parents, and others interested in education in using TIMSS materials, the National Research Council (NRC) has prepared a report, Global Perspectives for Local Action: Using TIMSS to Improve U. S. Mathematics and Science Education (see "Resources"). This report will help educators, administrators, parents and others interested in education to understand what can be learned from TIMSS findings, and it will encourage them to use the information to make improvements in

mathematics and science education. Provided in the report are insights into mathematics and science achievement, curriculum, instruction, and school support systems, such as professional development, in the United States and around the world. To make TIMSS information more accessible and useful to educators and the public, the NRC prepared this professional development guide to accompany its report. This guide provides directions and support materials for leading workshops and planning sessions for teachers, educational administrators, higher education faculty, and the interested public.
