The Race to the Top Teacher and Leader Preparation Implementation Committee (TLPIC) PROPEL Presentation



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# **Overview of PROPEL**

#### Partnership

- \* Florida Atlantic University, Department of Educational Leadership and Research Methodology
- \* Broward County Public Schools (BCPS), Office of Talent Development

#### \* Course Curriculum

- \* 21 courses
- \* Florida Principal Leadership Standards
- \* Florida Educational Leadership Examination, Skills and Competencies
- \* Interstate School Leaders Licensure Consortium (ISLLC)
- \* Embedded Professional Development / Building Capacity
  - \* Southern Regional Education Board (SREB)
  - \* Leadership and Learning Center (LLC)
  - Development Dimensions International (DDI)

### Overview

- \* Experiential Learning
  - Internship 3 semesters
  - \* Apprenticeship- 2 semesters
- \* Mentorship & Support
  - \* Home school principals
  - \* Apprentice principals
  - \* District Coordinator
- \* Evaluation
  - \* End of course surveys
  - \* Student focus groups
  - \* Twenty + studies in process

# Materials/Courses Developed

- \* Twenty-one graduate level courses
  - \* Co-constructed by FAU professors and BCPS administrators
  - Taught by BCPS doctorate holding administrators
- \* Internship/Apprenticeship aligned to Broward County Leadership pipeline
- \* LiveText portfolio
- \* PROPEL School Leaders Assessment: PSLA
- \* Competency assessments tied directly to FELE Competencies and Skills

# Materials/Courses Developed

- \* Admissions on-line application and protocols
- \* **PROPEL website**
- \* Database
- \* Adjunct, mentor and participant handbooks
- \* SharePoint site

# Professional Development Capacity Building

- \* Mentor development
- \* Coaching development
- \* LLC: Leaders Developing Leaders series
  - \* Continuous Improvement
  - \* Teaching and Learning
  - \* School Vision, Purpose and Culture
- \* DDI: Facilitation Skills

### Participant Growth Development

- \* Profile XT
- \* Propel Student Leadership Assessment (PSLA)
- \* Formative interviews
- \* The Strategic Leader, Dr. John Pisapia
  - \* Strategic Thinking Questionnaire
  - \* Strategic Leadership Questionnaire
- \* On-site visits by District Coordinator

### **Current Status**

### **Cohort One**

- \* Completion of Phase One:
  - \* Coursework
  - \* Internship
  - \* 21 students received Level One certification
- \* Entering Phase Two:
  - \* 29 students including ten assistant principals
  - \* Expected completion: June 2013
    - \* 10 participants- Principal Level eligible
    - \* 19 participants Assistant Principal eligible

### **Current Status**

### **Cohort Two**

- \* 25 students enrolled
- \* Completion of nine courses
  - \* Completion of Fall Internship
- \* Expected Completion of Phase One in August 2013
- \* Phase Two admissions begins Spring 2013

# Future Plans for the Project

- \* Research: FAU and BCPS
- \* Cohort 3
  - Preparing for the recruitment, nomination, and selection process for Cohort 3
  - Cohort 3 will be the first cohort that will not be funded by the original grant
- \* Grant writing
  - \* Research and support of future cohort
  - \* Support for continued FAU/BCPS partnership
  - \* Support for related leadership development
    - \* Teacher leadership and district leadership

# Sustainability Considerations

- \* Professional Development of BCPS personnel
- \* Continued alignment with BCPS Leadership Continuum
- \* Program needs:
  - \* FAU Coordinator
  - \* Broward Coordinator
  - \* District and university administrative support
  - Funds to support internship/apprenticeship days in practicum placements
- \* Future cohorts pay tuition

# Challenges

- \* Adjuncts
  - Hiring of qualified individuals
  - \* On-going professional training and development: Adult Learning
- \* Program
  - \* Bureaucracies adjusting to unusual "partnership" program
  - \* Participant writing and research skills
  - Simultaneous development and implementation
  - \* Differing organizational cultures in partnership
  - \* Timeline differences (student teachers, hiring of administrators, etc.)
  - \* Sustainability: permanence of personnel (mentors, principals, district staff)

# Challenges

#### \* District and University

- \* Need for policy changes and cultural adaptations to support turnaround leadership
- Opportunities for expansion of turnaround leadership and high performing leadership development to include all key administrators at all district levels

### Lessons Learned to Date

- Mentors need intensive and structured training and coaching
- \* Student teachers' availability
- Participants need workshops on academic and professional writing
- \* Need for a strong partnership between district officials and grant administrators
- \* Policy manuals for "exceptions to the expected behaviors" should be created before implementation

### Lessons Learned to Date

- \* Transparency and open information needs to be stressed due to parallel programs
- \* EdD/PhD does not an adjunct make
- \* Development time needed
- Principal sponsorship and mentoring must be structured and deliberate
- Mentor-intern relationship must be monitored and coached

### Possible Considerations for Level One and Level Two Certification Programs

- \* Embedded internship of significant duration
- \* Experiential learning embedded in regular coursework
- \* Active partnership between university and school district for Level One and Level Two certification
- Continuous program improvement with involvement of current school/district administrators and university faculty as an established and demonstrable element of program

# Possible Considerations for Level One and Level Two Certification Programs

- Formative assessments throughout program for growth reflection
- \* Professional development embedded in courses and aligned to current district/state initiatives
- District/university supervisor to monitor and align job embedded experiences
- Strong and active principal sponsorship / mentoring / coaching for students
- \* Embedded professional development for principals and administrators for mentoring / coaching