

Leadership for Learning Project: Wisconsin

Project Overview

One of the main purposes of Title I funding is to improve schools. This project supports a collaborative network of Title I principals through the Department of Public Instruction, Title I Team for the purpose of school improvement. Each school's principal and staff takes the Comprehensive Assessment of Leadership for Learning (CALL)* survey in the fall to gather formative data that will guide school improvement efforts. The goal is to support leaders of these Title I schools in the areas of shared leadership, improved school culture, and principal leadership development as they move their schools through a continuous improvement process. More specifically, goals include:

1. Using the CALL system and school/principal collaboration to improve school-wide leadership development.
2. Developing tools and processes that support professional growth in building school wide leadership capacity.
3. Learning about the efficacy of Title I principal networking as a school improvement strategy.
4. Continuing to explore effective strategies to establish and nurture a leadership support network.
5. Using implementation science research and tools to guide effective implementation of innovations that lead to positive student outcomes.

Project Scope

The scope of the project is limited to 25 Spotlight, Focus, and Priority Schools supported by one Title I Educational Consultant from the Focus School workgroup and one Title I Consultant from the Spotlight/Priority workgroup in partnership with staff from WCEPS. The members of the partnership jointly plan and implement professional development about school improvement including strategies for using the CALL system, understanding the resulting data, developing and implementing improvement plans, understanding distributive leadership, and engaging in implementation processes. The partnership facilitates principal collaboration using both electronic and face-to-face formats. The timeline and deliverables for the project are detailed below:

Deliverables and Timeline

- July 31 - Complete partnership agreement and work plan
- August - Finalize selection of participating schools
- August - Begin monthly CALL webinar series with topics to include:
 - August: Introduction and Project Overview
 - September: Prepare for survey administration
 - October: Administer Survey; Face to Face meeting--Shared Leadership; discussion of survey results
 - November: Using results in planning for school improvement
 - December: The Power of Distributed Leadership
 - January: Building implementation Teams and The Charge Statement
 - February: Face to Face Meeting – Implementation Science and School Improvement Planning
 - March: Communicating with all stakeholders
 - April: Planning for initial implementation
 - May: Prepare for survey administration; project evaluation
- June 30 - Complete evaluation summary and recommendations

Key Activities

- Bring principals together face to face three times per year in conjunction with other opportunities for professional development and practice-based data analysis,
- Deliver monthly webinars that include opportunities for principals to learn about strategies for building leadership capacity in their schools, network, collaboratively problem solve and celebrate successes.
- Evaluate the project impact and success.

* CALL is a validated formative assessment that captures measures of leadership tasks from the perspectives of school leaders and staff created at the University of Wisconsin-Madison through an IES grant in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. It is distributed and managed by the Wisconsin Center for Education Products and Services (WCEPS). www.leadershipforlearning.org.