Meeting Minutes


Not present: Union, Cherokee, Chester, Dillon 4, Marlboro, Research Associates, CERRA, & SCASA

I. Welcome by Mark Mitchell

II. Approval of the minutes of the September 17, 2013 meeting
MOTION made by Cheryl Warren and Jennifer Etheridge to approve the minutes to the September 17, 2013 meeting.

III. Amendment and approval of the agenda
MOTION made by all to approve the agenda for the October 8, 2013 meeting.

IV. New Business

   - At the School Leadership Program Working Conference, Mary, Mark, and Felix were able to hear about school leadership grant projects and collaborate with others from all over the country.
   - From the presentations of other projects, it was apparent that NetLEAD has been successful in its implementation of various school leadership projects and that the scope and quality of the work that has been done through NetLEAD exceeds many of the other projects.
   - The school-wide approach has been a success. In year 3, we have had 1471 participants in NetLEAD projects and 29 principals in the induction academy.
   - From the conference, they were able to take away many new ideas. The discussions affirmed that NetLEAD is on the right track.
   - Info-graphic see attached

b. Budget Information
   - Due to the government shut down, there is no one at the US Department of Education.
   - The university and carryover funds are able to carry on our projects while things are being worked out in Washington.

c. New School Leadership Program Grant – Mark Mitchell
• We would like to begin the process of competing for a new school leadership grant.
• We would like your help to come up with innovative ideas.
• The new grant may want to focus on school climate and culture, the principal and assistant principal evaluation, or the five essentials of organizing schools for improvement (Illinois).

V. Unfinished Business

a. Data Collection Year 3—Felix Blumhardt
• Thank you for your support in collecting district data!
• Felix has been able to collect most district data from each of our partner districts.
• Please contact Felix at felix@evaluationgroup.com, if you have any questions.

b. PIMRS Collection Year 4—Felix Blumhardt
• Felix has also sent out emails to our mentees on for the Principal Instructional Management Rating Scale (PIMRS) survey. This survey helps measure the impact that the NetLEAD project has on school leadership and to assess school leaders who are participating or have participated in the NetLEAD project.
• The supervisor and teachers are also asked to complete the survey.
• It is important to gather this data to show the impact the NetLEAD project has had on school leadership.
• A follow-up email on the PIMRS survey was sent on 10/11/13.

c. School Climate Initiatives

1. Olweus Bullying Prevention Program—Mark Mitchell
• Olweus training has been conducted in Marlboro (5 schools) and Union (2 schools).
• Interested in Olweus? Let Tara Comer know at comert@winthrop.edu.

2. Darkness to Light Facilitator Training—Child Sexual Abuse Program—Mark Mitchell
• Since improvement to school climate is important, NetLEAD is now offering the opportunity to train administrators to become Darkness to Light facilitators.
• Darkness to Light is a research-based child sexual abuse program, custom made for educators.
• Training Offering:
  ❖ Those interested in becoming a facilitator would attend a one day training workshop (9am-3pm). To complete the training, it is required that the facilitator’s trainer watches him/her conduct the training.
  ❖ 10 people need to sign up in order for a training session to take place. One session in Pee Dee will be offered and one session for Upstate (at Winthrop) will be offered if there is enough interest.
  ❖ Additional criminal background check is required.
  ❖ Cost per administrator is $300.
d. School District Mentor Program – Mark Mitchell

- Interested individuals may contact Tara Comer at comert@winthrop.edu.

- Soon, we will be working on getting the dates down for the School District Mentor Program work sessions. An email will be sent out to the administrator mentor and district liaison to give additional details.
- The administrator mentors will be gathering at Winthrop University to begin the work to create a mentoring program in each district.
- Administrator mentors will be compensated ($150 per day) for their time and will be reimbursed for travel expenses.

e. Year 4 NetLEAD Mini-Grants – Tara Comer

- The NetLEAD Grant has $6000 to distribute to our partner schools for mini-grants in Year 4.
- School faculty from partner districts will submit proposals to support data-based inquiry projects to improve student achievement.
- The mini-grants can range from $200 to $1000 and will support faculty in purchasing materials and supplies, traveling, and/or developing curriculum.
- An administrator must be a participant in the application process.
- The deadline for submission of the application is November 1, 2013.
- Awardees will be notified by December 16, 2013.
- Like previous years, mini-grant monies will be distributed as a reimbursement. Reimbursement forms will be due by March 3, 2014.

VI. NetLEAD Corps of Mentors Report – Mary Chandler

a. Updates from the Corps of Mentors – Mary Chandler

b. Mentor Reports – Corps of Mentors

   Kathi Gibson:
   - Kathi is currently writing an article to submit to Educational Leadership journal on focusing on the lessons learned from mentoring principals. The article will cover lessons learned from the NetLEAD mentors such focusing on support and listening rather than advising.
   - Hoping to get the article published.

   Dale Goff:
   - Success story - A successful principal focuses on purposeful planning
     - The principal is looking deeper at evidence of student learning. The principal is focusing on a greater level of understanding for students and purposeful intellectual engagement. She is listening to teachers and teachers are planning at more meaningful level.

   Cathy Hammond:
   - How to Engage Underperforming Students
   - Interactive Learning

   Sharon Buddin:
   - Focus on Data!
   - Looking at each individual student for growth. In planning, we are seeing the difference that using data makes.
Theodore Jackson

- Involving students is essential.
- Student ownership of learning is important.
- Share research with schools.

VII. Other

a. Topics for next GMT meeting
   1. New school leadership conference
   2. School District Mentoring Program
   3. School Climate Initiatives

b. The next GMT Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 12, 2013 at Saluda Shoals in Columbia, SC

VIII. Adjourn