ANNUAL LEADERSHIP FORUM
The Principal Factor in School Improvement:
Implications for States and Local Districts

May 5 – 6, 2011
Embassy Suites Atlanta – Airport
Forum Highlights

- Succession planning strategies at the state and district levels for developing pipelines of talented principals
- State, regional and school district models to grow and support middle grades and secondary school principals
- Better school leader evaluation systems
- Tools that develop principal capacity to conduct effective classroom observations, including feedback and support

Thursday, May 5, 2011

11 A.M. REGISTRATION

12 P.M. Welcome, Conference Objectives and Overview of Benchmark Report
Gene Bottoms, Southern Regional Education Board

Topic 1: Can states and districts have great principals without a succession plan?

12:30 P.M. GENERAL SESSION I

A Conceptual Framework for Principal Succession Planning: Key to School Improvement
Facilitator: Kathy O’Neill, Southern Regional Education Board
Presenter: Jon Schmidt-Davis, Southern Regional Education Board

Topic 2: What can states, regions and districts do to develop great principals who can lead school improvement?

1:15 P.M. GENERAL SESSION II

Models for Developing Principals I
Facilitator: Paula Egelson, Southern Regional Education Board
Presenters: Integrating Comprehensive School Reform with Development of New and Existing Principals
Betty Fry-Ahearn, Southern Regional Education Board
Deborah Bass, Southern Regional Education Board

Using District Leadership Academies to Select, Prepare and Support Principals for Urban Schools: The Role of Web-Based Courses
Kathy O’Neill, Southern Regional Education Board
Myra Whitney, Memphis City Schools

2:15 P.M. BREAK
GENERAL SESSION III

Models for Developing Principals II
Facilitator: Paula Egelson, Southern Regional Education Board
Presenters:
Selecting, Preparing and Supporting Principals for Challenging Schools
Gene Bottoms, Southern Regional Education Board
Jon Schmidt-Davis, Southern Regional Education Board

Designing Principal Preparation Programs Outside the Traditional University
Gale Hulme, Georgia Leadership Institute for School Improvement

3:30 P.M. BREAK

3:45 P.M. CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Lessons, Guiding Principles and Actions
Work teams will draw from the presentations and their own experience to identify key features of these issues:

A. Preparing Principals Through Rural Regional Consortiums
   for Challenged Middle Grades and High Schools
   Facilitator: Paula Egelson, Southern Regional Education Board
   Consultants: Betty Fry-Ahearn, Southern Regional Education Board
   Deborah Bass, Southern Regional Education Board

B. Designing a Model Leadership Academy to Select, Prepare
   and Support Principals in Urban School Districts
   Facilitator: Kathy O’Neill, Southern Regional Education Board
   Consultant: Myra Whitney, Memphis City Schools

C. Designing State Leadership Academies to Select, Prepare
   and Support Principals for the State’s Most Challenged Middle Grades
   and High Schools
   Facilitator: Jon Schmidt-Davis, Southern Regional Education Board
   Consultant: Frank Duffin, Southern Regional Education Board

D. Designing a Leadership Preparation Program Outside
   the Traditional University
   Facilitator: Carol McGrevin, E & C Partners
   Consultant: Gale Hulme, Georgia Leadership Institute for School Improvement

5 P.M. GENERAL SESSION IV

Leadership Professional Development Opportunities: How to Engage Leaders in Solving Real School Problems
Facilitator: Kathy O’Neill, Southern Regional Education Board
Consultant: Frank Duffin, Southern Regional Education Board

5:30 P.M. RECEPTION

6:30 P.M. DINNER

Building a Pipeline of Effective Principals
Keynote Speaker: Jody Spiro, The Wallace Foundation
Friday, May 6, 2011

7 A.M.      BREAKFAST

8 A.M.     Reflections on Day One
          Facilitator: Kathy O’Neill, Southern Regional Education Board

Topic 3: How can we develop effective principals through evaluation and support?

8:30 A.M.   GENERAL SESSION V

How to Keep Principals Growing Through Evaluation and Professional Development
Facilitator: Gene Bottoms, Southern Regional Education Board
Presenters:
Assessing Accomplished Principals for National Certification
Joan Auchter, National Board for Professional Teaching Standards
Using VAL-ED to Advance Principal Growth
Ellen Goldring, Vanderbilt University’s Peabody College
VAL-ED: Planning and Follow-Up Strategies
Julius Koenigsknecht, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College at Arizona State University
Developing Principals’ Capacity to Conduct Classroom Observations and Provide Feedback and Support
Brian Riedlinger, The School Leadership Center of Greater New Orleans

10:15 A.M.  BREAK

10:30 A.M.  CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Actions States and Districts Can Take to Use Assessment and Evaluation to Grow Highly Effective Principals
Work teams will draw from presentations and their own experience to brainstorm actions states and districts can take to use assessment and evaluation to grow highly effective principals.

A. Assessing Accomplished Principals for National Certification  Ambassador
Facilitator: Kathy O’Neill, Southern Regional Education Board
Consultants: Joan Auchter, National Board for Professional Teaching Standards
Kairlyn Mitran, National Board for Professional Teaching Standards

B. Using VAL-ED and Other Assessment and Evaluation Tools to Advance Principal Growth  Diplomat
Facilitator: Betty Fry-Ahearn, Southern Regional Education Board
Consultants: Ellen Goldring, Vanderbilt University’s Peabody College
Julius Koenigsknecht, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College at Arizona State University

C. Developing Principals to Effectively Evaluate and Support Teachers  Concord A & B
Facilitator: Jon Schmidt-Davis, Southern Regional Education Board
Consultants: Brian Riedlinger, The School Leadership Center of Greater New Orleans
Frank Duffin, Southern Regional Education Board
11:30 A.M. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

**Lessons Learned and Next Steps**

*Work teams will report on big ideas and next steps for states and districts to select, prepare and support new principals; develop accomplished ones; and use assessment and evaluation to grow principals who can lead school improvement.*

Facilitators: Kathy O’Neill, Southern Regional Education Board
Gene Bottoms, Southern Regional Education Board

12 P.M. ADJOURN