# Learning-Centered Leadership Program



Transforming Teaching and Learning Through Effective School Leadership

SREB School Improvement



## **Preparing Effective School Leaders**

Effective school leaders are the key to school improvement — that's a lesson the Southern Regional Education Board has learned from more than 30 years of research and work in schools nationwide. Truly effective leaders use continuous improvement strategies to engage teachers in owning problems and solutions. Louis et al. (2010) found that effective school leaders were responsible for as much as 25 percent of a school's total impact on student achievement.

States, districts and schools need support choosing, preparing and supporting principals, assistant principals and teacher-leaders.

# Learning-Centered Leadership Program

SREB's Learning-Centered Leadership Program builds the capacity of aspiring school leaders and empowers current school leaders to lead changes in school and classroom practices that increase student achievement and transform school cultures.

## Florida Turnaround Leaders Program

SREB partnered with five large urban districts — Miami-Dade, Jacksonville, Pinellas, Orange County, and Alachua – to use LCLP to help aspiring principals master turnaround leadership skills through a rigorous curriculum of seminars, online courses, and a full-time, six-month internship. Eighty-three program completers demonstrated mastery through almost two dozen practical assignments and a capstone that required them to lead a component of their school's improvement plan.

LCLP supports leaders of K-12 schools and technology centers through customizable professional development, mentoring and job-embedded leadership coaching in which seasoned leaders become critical friends to new or less experienced leaders. LCLP helps reduce principal turnover, which may be as high as every three years in the average school.

# **How LCLP Works**

To fulfill the high expectations that come with school leadership roles, school leaders need to be lifelong learners. LCLP's **leadership learning cycle** provides the structure school leaders need to support lifelong learning and strategies that yield results.

With LCLP, aspiring and current school leaders learn how to implement **instructional leadership practices** that transform teaching and learning. LCLP's high-quality technical assistance, professional learning opportunities, expert coaching and research help school leaders:

- Communicate a vision of excellence and hold everyone in the school accountable for meeting high expectations.
- Maintain a focus on college- and career-preparatory academics.
- Lead faculty and staff in continuous improvement strategies.
- Make effective use of data to inform decisions about teaching and learning.
- Recognize standards-driven instruction.
- Foster a collaborative, positive learning environment for teachers and students.
- Provide teachers with actionable feedback that helps them improve their practice.
- Use time and other resources creatively and efficiently to support school improvement.
- Learn from peers and keep abreast of new research and evidence-based practices.



# **Customizable Design and Delivery**

#### For Aspiring School Leaders

States, districts and schools need to prepare and maintain a ready pool of the right leaders to fill vacancies — the kind of leaders who have the knowledge, skills and dispositions to champion change.

SREB works with states, districts and schools to:

- Assess and improve the school leader selection process.
- Design or improve the principal preparation pipeline.
- Partner with colleges and universities to enhance leadership courses and internship experiences.

#### For Current School Leaders

LCLP's broad array of training modules including essential topics like data use, culture and communication — can be customized to suit the needs of diverse audiences.

SREB works with states, districts and schools to:

- Evaluate school leadership training and preparation programs and assess needs.
- Customize training designs to suit the unique content, context and participants being served.
- Create engaging training experiences and support in-house delivery of that training.
- Provide customized coaching to support leaders in implementing new practices.
- Provide principals with materials to lead self-paced, job-embedded professional development on different topics.





#### **Implementation Options**

LCLP is an integral component of SREB's school improvement services, particularly its Making Schools Work K-12 improvement frameworks. Making Schools Work engages educators and leaders in identifying problems of practice that prevent at-risk students from achieving, implementing research-based solutions to those problems and learning within a collaborative network of schools nationwide.

States, districts and schools can customize and support their implementation of LCLP with other SREB products and services, such as:

- evidence-based curricula
- professional development, coaching and technical assistance
- research and publications
- annual convenings, conferences and special events

"SREB has been an integral part of our Level II Principal Certification Program for the past five years. LCLP's content-rich PD takes our participants on a deep dive into instructional leadership through a series of in-depth, sitebased coaching sessions that offer specific feedback for continued growth. LCLP is cost effective, and graduates of the program are truly prepared to be highly effective school principals."

Lou Cerreta, Director, Professional
Development, Pinellas County Schools

#### Learn more:

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