First Steps

We are pleased to report that we are receiving considerable interest in the *District and State Collaborative Network for Developing Comprehensive Systems for Learning Support*.

All who want to be part of the network are included in the communication and sharing facets of the network's efforts. Because of the diversity of participants, direct interchanges will be personalized for specific individuals and subgroups to ensure they are specifically focused on new directions for student and learning supports and are strategically focused and highly productive.

Here are the first steps that are planned:

(1) We are providing some resources (see list below) in hopes that each respondent will browse through one or more to get a sense of the types of matters the network might explore.

(2) Over the next week or so we would like to get a sense of the specific matters you would want the network to explore (e.g., specific interests, what needs you have related to moving in new directions, how the network might help). You can either send some brief notes to us by email, or let us know a good time to call and we will write up what you tell us.

(3) After gathering everyone's responses, we will collate them into a participants' interest list and send the document to those on the list.

(4) We will then proceed to gather, collate, and send out information on any new directions work being done by network participants and others. Since everyone is involved in some form of student and learning supports, we will be specifically focused on new directions and be exploring where specific places are in moving forward. The information on new directions for student and learning supports will be circulated beyond the network to inform a wide segment of leaders across the country.

These first steps will provide a foundation for

   (a) establishing specific types of electronic sharing related to participants' needs and interests,

   (b) scheduling personalized (e.g., individual & subgroup interchanges) among network participants related to specific stated needs and interests,

   (c) determining how the Center can be a strategic resource to SEAs and LEAs that are moving in new directions,

   (d) planning other ways for network to be of value to participants and others.

List for Browsing Matters Related to New Directions for Student and Learning Supports

A Few Center Documents Online

Toward next steps in school improvement: Addressing barriers to learning and teaching.
    http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/systemic/towardnextstep.pdf

School Improvement: A Functional View of Enabling Equity of Opportunity.
    http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/functions.pdf

*Funding stream integration to promote development and sustainability of a comprehensive
    system of learning supports.* http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/fundingstream.pdf

*Establishing a Comprehensive System of Learning Supports at a School: Seven Steps for
    Principals and Their Staff.*   http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/7steps.pdf

Handbook Online

Adelman, H.S., & Taylor, L. (2008). *Rebuilding for learning: Addressing Barriers to learning
    and teaching, and re-engaging students.* NY: Scholastic, Inc.
    http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/rebuild/RebuidlingV11RD28.pdf

One Hour Introductory Webinar

Our Center developed this introduction in collaboration with the American Association of School
Administrators and Scholastic. It is entitled: *Strengthening School Improvement: Developing a
Comprehensive System of Learning Supports to Address Barriers to Learning and Teaching.*
https://scholastic.webex.com/scholastic/lsr.php?AT=pb&SP=TC&rID=48915112&rKey=09f14db0881f5
159&act=pb

Examples of Pioneering Initiatives

In motion across the country are trailblazing initiatives by state education agencies and
school districts (e.g., in Louisiana, Iowa, Georgia, Florida, Arizona – see
http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/summit2002/trailblazing.htm). As examples, see the design
documents prepared by:

> Louisiana Department of Education –
http://www.louisianaschools.net/lde/uploads/15044.pdf

> Iowa Department of Education –
http://educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=2588

> Gainesville City Schools – http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/aasa/aasagainesville.pdf