Special Announcement

>Opportunities for developing a comprehensive approach to addressing barriers to learning and teaching

This is a brief reminder in case you missed it.

(1) Request For Application

Our collaboration with Scholastic, Inc. has established an initiative with the American Association of School Administrators (AASA) that will provide a range of opportunities focused on developing a comprehensive approach to addressing barriers to learning and teaching and re-engaging disconnected students. These include a Request for Application that will establish 3-4 Lead Districts in moving forward to develop a comprehensive system of learning supports.

Districts will be guided in their work by Drs. Howard Adelman and Linda Taylor, educators, researchers and national leaders from UCLA who have worked with state departments, regional units, districts, and schools to design and implement comprehensive learning supports systems. (See brief document, Toward Next Steps in School Improvement: Addressing Barriers to Learning and Teaching, http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/systemic/towardnextstep.pdf).

We are pleased that this outstanding opportunity is being offered to administrators across the country. The information and application for the RFA are online at http://www.aasa.org/content.aspx?id=7264

> We want to alert you to this opportunity which is intended for Superintendents.

We hope you will send it on to as many superintendents as you can.

(2) Webinar

Strengthening School Improvement by Developing a Comprehensive System of Learning Supports to Address Barriers to Learning and Teaching

For anyone interested, on October 29, 2009 from 1 pm to 2 pm EDT, AASA, Scholastic and UCLA will host a webinar titled, Strengthening School Improvement by Developing a Comprehensive System of Learning Supports to Address Barriers to Learning and Teaching.

During the webinar, Drs. Adelman and Taylor will talk about why a system of learning supports is imperative for schools to succeed, and what forward thinking states and districts are doing to implement such systems in order to:

> Reduce student dropout rates
> Reduce teacher dropout rates
> Re-engage students in classroom leaning
> Narrow achievement gaps
> Eliminate the "plateau effect" related to student achievement
> Support schools in crisis

To register, Go to
http://scholastic.webex.com/scholastic/k2/j.php?ED=127595687&amp;UID=127473567&amp;FM=1

Session Number: 359 033 400

Once you are approved by the host, you will receive a confirmation email with instructions for joining the session.