

**Reading Apprenticeship Across the Disciplines:
Effective Secondary Teaching and Learning through Literacy Leadership**

The Strategic Literacy Initiative (SLI) at WestEd submits this proposal for a SEED grant **addressing Absolute Priorities 1 and 3 and Competitive Preferences 1, 2, 3 and 4.** The goal of the project is to increase the effectiveness of secondary instruction and the number of highly effective secondary teachers, and thereby improve secondary students' learning dispositions, metacognitive skills, academic literacy proficiencies and academic achievement.

WestEd's Strategic Literacy Initiative (SLI) will provide Reading Apprenticeship cross-disciplinary professional learning to 2,000 middle and high school teachers core academic disciplines in IL, MI, NY, and TX. To build capacity and sustainability, we will collaborate with four established local partners who serve schools with high needs student populations and support comprehensive reform to improve teaching and learning. With these partners, we will carry out the work in two large high-needs urban districts, Chicago and New York City, and in district consortia in Texas and Michigan. Each of the local partners will provide ongoing support for academic literacy implementation and build capacity to sustain and disseminate literacy practices as a part of strong school wide learning cultures. We anticipate the impact of these activities will extend the reach of the project to 4500 secondary teachers of academic subject areas (an additional 2500 teachers).

An experimental study designed to meet WWC Evidence Standards will examine the growth and effectiveness of teachers served by the project using multiple measures - including local measures of teacher evaluation. The study will also evaluate impact of the professional development on students' academic dispositions, reading comprehension and achievement.