## Technical Review Coversheet

**Applicant:** Albuquerque Public Schools -- District Principal Support, (U363A100029)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
<th>Points Scored</th>
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<td><strong>Selection Criteria</strong></td>
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<td>Quality of Project Design</td>
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Technical Review Form

Panel #3 - SLP Review Panel - 3: 84.363A

Reader #2: **********
Applicant: Albuquerque Public Schools -- District Principal Support, (U363A100029)

Questions

Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Design

1. The Secretary considers the quality of the design of the proposed project. In determining the quality of the design of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the extent to which the proposed project consists of a comprehensive plan that includes a description of-

   1. The extent to which there is a conceptual framework underlying the proposed research or demonstration activities and the quality of that framework.

   2. The extent to which the proposed activities constitute a coherent, sustained program of training in the field.

   3. The extent to which the proposed project is apart of a comprehensive effort to improve teaching and learning and support rigorous academic standards for students.

   4. The extent to which the design for implementing and evaluating the proposed project will result in information to guide possible replication of project activities or strategies, including information about the effectiveness of the approach or strategies employed by the project.

   5. The extent to which project participants are to be selected on the basis of academic excellence.

Strengths:

STRENGTHS: 1. This project provides a well rounded set of offerings and services for participants.
2. The participants will be able to assist teachers with the task of analyzing data to make sound instructional decisions.
3. The requirement for administrative residency will make for more concentrated work and time for reflective practice.
4. The requirement to have the participants make a commitment to remain in the district for at least 2 years will help to create a sense of stability. (p. 12)
5. The assurance that the participants will be placed in high needs schools would meet the intent of this grant.
6. The well thought out schedule of orientation workshops (p.12), bi-monthly meetings (p.13) and peer mentoring will have ongoing involvement of participants.
7. This project has developed a good criteria for the selection of mentors.
8. There is a good systematic approach to scheduling, training and feedback.
9. One of the strongest components is the availability of Mentor Principals at all times. (p. 13)
10. The project offers support for newly appointed assistant principals.

Weaknesses:

WEAKNESSES: The project needs to better define the training that will be provided in the field.

Reader’s Score: 42

Selection Criteria - Quality of the Project Evaluation
1. The Secretary considers the quality of the evaluation to be conducted of the proposed project. In determining the quality of the evaluation, the Secretary considers-

1. The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data to the extent possible.

2. The extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide performance feedback and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes.

Strengths:

STRENGTHS: 1. The evaluation design uses internal and external evaluators
2. The evaluation design includes student achievement.
3. Every aspect of the evaluation design is ongoing and measures each aspect of the proposed program.
4. The evaluation instruments are well established and reliable.
5. Project includes a well designed outline of the plan which identifies both formative and summative evaluation. (p. 20-22)

Weaknesses:

WEAKNESSES: None

Reader’s Score: 25

Selection Criteria - Significance

1. The Secretary considers the significance of the proposed project. In determining the significance of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors-

1. The potential contribution of the proposed project to increased knowledge or understanding of educational problems, issues, or effective strategies.

2. The likelihood that the proposed project will result in system change or improvement.

3. The importance or magnitude of the results or outcomes likely to be attained by the proposed project, especially improvements in teaching and student achievement.

Strengths:

STRENGTHS: This project appears to be a part of several state initiatives to improve preparation of individuals for the role of principal. This should have a great impact on schools across the state.
2. The fact that principals, assistant principals and mentors would be engaged in the Alliance for Leading and Learning study on the improvement of teaching and learning would strengthen their roles and make them effective.
3. The impact of teachers as a result of this project should significantly improve student achievement. Teacher support is emphasized throughout the project application, especially the use of data to improve student achievement. The results of this study would add to the existing literature.

Weaknesses:

WEAKNESSES: None

Reader’s Score: 20
Selection Criteria - Quality of the Management Plan

1. The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project. In determining the quality of the management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

1. The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.

2. How the applicant will ensure that a diversity of perspectives are brought to bear in the operation of the proposed project, including those of parents, teachers, the business community, a variety of disciplinary and professional fields, recipients or beneficiaries of services, or others, as appropriate.

3. The adequacy of procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project.

Strengths:

STRENGTHS: 1. This project appears to show importance by having heads of each agency involved in the planning of the project. (p. 27)
2. The management plan has a clear plan outline of individual responsibilities.
3. The timelines are realistic and expected outcomes are clearly stated.

Weaknesses:

WEAKNESSES: None

Reader’s Score: 10

Status: Submitted
Last Updated: 05/19/2010 12:16 PM
### Technical Review Coversheet

**Applicant:** Albuquerque Public Schools -- District Principal Support, (U363A100029)

**Reader #3:** **********

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Panel #3 - SLP Review Panel - 3: 84.363A

Reader #3: **********
Applicant: Albuquerque Public Schools -- District Principal Support, (U363A100029)

Questions

Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Design

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   1. The extent to which there is a conceptual framework underlying the proposed research or demonstration activities and the quality of that framework.
   2. The extent to which the proposed activities constitute a coherent, sustained program of training in the field.
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   4. The extent to which the design for implementing and evaluating the proposed project will result in information to guide possible replication of project activities or strategies, including information about the effectiveness of the approach or strategies employed by the project.
   5. The extent to which project participants are to be selected on the basis of academic excellence.

Strengths:

STRENGTHS:
1. Potential for strong Conceptual Framework given how well the elements have been explained (Fullan's Change Theory) (p. 8)
2. Coherent, strong and clear plan involving mentors, workshops, etc.
3. Seems comprehensive even though self-contained. (p. 8)
4. Built in process to capture potential information to guide replication (NMLI)
5. The idea to pay for sabbaticals for aspiring principals is innovative.
6. The attention to providing training opportunity for a diverse group of leaders is important and admirable.

Weaknesses:

WEAKNESSES:
1. No explicit explanation of the project's conceptual framework.
2. Lack of specific numbers regarding credentials.

Reader's Score: 41

Selection Criteria - Quality of the Project Evaluation

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1. The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data to the extent possible.

2. The extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide performance feedback and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes.

Strengths:

STRENGTHS:
1. Multi-dimensional, including Personal Development Plan, Surveys, Meetings, VAL-ED, internal and external evaluator.
2. Feedback forums seems like an effective way to permit periodic and thoughtful assessment of progress. Clear research questions focused on selection procedures and impact on schools, completion rates, etc.

Weaknesses:

WEAKNESS:
1. Lacks information on input and processes.

Reader's Score: 24

Selection Criteria - Significance

1. The Secretary considers the significance of the proposed project. In determining the significance of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors-

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2. The likelihood that the proposed project will result in system change or improvement.

3. The importance or magnitude of the results or outcomes likely to be attained by the proposed project, especially improvements in teaching and student achievement.

Strengths:

STRENGTHS:
1. Project narrative demonstrates understanding of how important it is to recruit and select the most prepared participants and not just rely on the "non-strategy of self-selection".
2. Clear focus on importance of moving from compliance to improving instruction.
3. Important focus on the chief potential of project -- to support teachers in their work (go inside the Black box).

Weaknesses:

WEAKNESSES:
1. The narrative needs to be more explicit regarding its potential impact by specifying how long the peer mentors will be involved and that the retention rate of peer mentors and certified principals currently is and what it will be increased to.

Reader's Score: 18
Selection Criteria - Quality of the Management Plan

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3. The adequacy of procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project.

Strengths:

STRENGTHS:
1. Full-time management. Many key individuals already named. Excellent assortment of people from different locales. Feasible timelines.
2. Clear procedures and strong timelines for ensuring feedback.

Weaknesses:

WEAKNESSES:
1. No clear discussion of how parents or the business community will be involved.

Reader's Score: 9

Status: Submitted
Last Updated: 05/20/2010 04:59 PM
## Technical Review Coversheet

**Applicant:** Albuquerque Public Schools -- District Principal Support, (U363A100029)  
**Reader #1:** **********

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Panel #3 - SLP Review Panel - 3: 84.363A

Questions

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   5. The extent to which project participants are to be selected on the basis of academic excellence.

Strengths:

STRENGTHS:

Alliance for Leading and Learning (ALL) has a clear proposition for replication. In fact, the ALL model was birthed from the Principals as Leaders through Mentoring (PALM) project.

ALL has a well defined framework and its concepts of system reform and changing culture; capacity building, and leadership development is well articulated and supports an alternative approach to teaching and learning.

Goals, objectives, and expected outcomes seem to be targeting specific activities with its conceptual framework by introducing a cadre of systems for selecting candidates, and supporting candidates with mentors at a variety of stages of training from school based to district level professionals.

ALL program components, such as the maintenance of Professional Learning Committees (PLC’s), NM Principal Evaluation Protocol and the Vanderbilt Assessment for Leadership in Education, and professional development training sessions are respectable and valuable tools for attempting for improving teaching and learning. Additionally, the co-teaching model between UNM faculty and district principals for cohort members is very valuable.

Selection process is extensive and will attract excellent candidates. The selection process, along with the inclusion of the NW Leadership Institute as a partnering organization for establishing high standards will also ensure the program is affiliated with individuals that support rigorous academic standards for students.
Weaknesses:

Although ALL has a well defined framework, it doesn't clearly outline student improvement, nor does it address how the program will be measured over time.

Training in the field could have been addressed in a little more detail.

Reader’s Score: 41

Selection Criteria - Quality of the Project Evaluation

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Strengths:

Evaluation model is nicely laid out in the "Logic Model" attachment. It's clear and well structured to capture data for formative and summative assessment, as well as capture quantitative and qualitative data.

The use of an external evaluation team, like the "clearinghouse" for all data collection and analysis can be used as a tool of progressing towards achieving intended outcomes.

Guiding research questions, specifically those noted in the evaluation plan can be used to provide performance feedback for program leadership at UNM and the district office.

Weaknesses:

Although the evaluation is using a coherent "Logic Model", it may fail to adequately address data if "broad array", "multiple methodologies" and "three-pronged approaches" are used for data collection. Applicant should be clear on all accounts for data collection as to not disrupt the accuracy of the data findings.

Student achievement was not clearly articulated as participants graduate out of the program and become leaders at low performing schools.

Reader’s Score: 20
Selection Criteria - Significance

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Strengths:

STRENGTHS:

ALL recognizes the leadership potential of invested teachers, which can lead to improvements in student achievement. ALL is geared towards training principals to support teachers in their work.

Excellent outline addressing "using student achievement data" as a means for adequately monitoring outcomes.

Weaknesses:

WEAKNESSES:

ALL is articulated as an excellent opportunity to test the impact of new programs and initiatives and increases likelihood of systematic change in leadership development. However, there are no provisions in place if the articulation fails.

Reader’s Score: 18

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   3. The adequacy of procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project.

Strengths:

STRENGTHS:

Management team is clear and includes names, roles and responsibilities of key personnel. Additionally it outlines reporting officials and their roles to the program, with regards to the district and UNM.
Applicant has outlined a participate feedback process.

Objectives for achievement is listed and clearly defined.

Weaknesses:

Although diversity of perspectives is listed, it didn't include parents, or business partners as a part of the evaluation process.

Reader's Score: 8

Status: Submitted
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