

**U.S. Department of Education - EDCAPS
G5-Technical Review Form (New)**

Status: Submitted

Last Updated: 05/19/2010 11:39 PM

Technical Review Coversheet

Applicant: Western Michigan University -- College of Education and Human Development ,Educational Leadership (U363A100082)

Reader #3: *****

	Points Possible	Points Scored
Questions		
Selection Criteria		
Quality of Project Design		
1. N/A	45	42
Quality of the Project Evaluation		
1. N/A	25	24
Significance		
1. N/A	20	20
Quality of the Management Plan		
1. N/A	10	10
Sub Total	100	96
Total	100	96

Technical Review Form

Panel #9 - SLP Review Panel - 9: 84.363A

Reader #3: *****

Applicant: Western Michigan University -- College of Education and Human Development ,
Educational Leadership (U363A100082)

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:

The applicant has listed the conceptual framework as the seven dimension of effective principal leadership and there are four major groups of learning activities based upon them. The proposed project seeks to establish a learning/doing team for each school. The proposed project has listed outcomes that are based upon principal behaviors, student achievement and school culture. The design and research-based model for the program and its activities may be replicated. The applicant has included a comprehensive selection process to ensure that the aspiring principals and principals are selected based upon standards of academic excellence.

Weaknesses:

Weaknesses:

There is not a formal mechanism to retain these highly-trained principals and assistant principals after they have completed this extensive and intensive training.

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:

The applicant included methods of evaluation that included pre-assessment, mid-year assessments and post-assessments which was included as both formative and summative assessments. The applicant also identified four quantitative tools and several qualitative tools that would be used to evaluate data. The methods of evaluation will provide performance feedback and allow for assessment of the progress of the proposed project.

Weaknesses:

Weaknesses:

It is unclear where the experimental design fits in the grant program as one group may have a reduced level of effectiveness based upon in which model they participate.

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-

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:

The Applicant has shown that the proposed project will directly and indirectly affect a significant number of students in the targeted area which will increase the likelihood that these measures will lead to systematic change that results in improved student outcomes. The scope and wide variety of strategies will ultimately lead to increased knowledge and understanding of the problems in all segments of the population which will in turn lead to better understanding during implementation.

Weaknesses:

Weaknesses:

No weaknesses were found

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:

The applicant has included a list of key personnel and their responsibilities and duties within the proposed project. They have also included an in-depth chart that outlines project activities, timelines and milestones for the 30-month project. The applicant has stated that there will be an advisory committee and expanded school improvement team to ensure diversity of perspectives as well as mechanism to ensure continuous feedback such as surveys at intervals within the grant. The applicant seeks to use the experimental design with the two cohorts to see if the structure of the process needs to be modified.

Weaknesses:

Weaknesses:

No weaknesses were found

Reader's Score: 10

Status: Submitted

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Status: Submitted

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Technical Review Coversheet

Applicant: Western Michigan University -- College of Education and Human Development ,Educational Leadership (U363A100082)

Reader #1: *****

	Points Possible	Points Scored
Questions		
Selection Criteria		
Quality of Project Design		
1. N/A	45	42
Quality of the Project Evaluation		
1. N/A	25	25
Significance		
1. N/A	20	20
Quality of the Management Plan		
1. N/A	10	10
Sub Total	100	97
Total	100	97

Technical Review Form

Panel #9 - SLP Review Panel - 9: 84.363A

Reader #1: *****

Applicant: Western Michigan University -- College of Education and Human Development ,
Educational Leadership (U363A100082)

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:

The conceptual framework as outlined for the project is based on two elements (the seven dimensions of school principalship and the theory of learning and practice for adults in a complex organization). Both elements originate from a review of the literature specific to improving student achievement (P. 1). Support for the framework is noted by multiple research citations that are complete and relevant. Further support for the applicant's framework is noted by funding from the USDOE and the Wallace Foundation that resulted in the development the Learning-Centered Leadership Development Program for Practicing and Aspiring Principals (P. 2). Collectively each dimension of the project is supported by the work of Marzano and other researchers (P. 3). In response to providing a project that is coherent and will be sustainable the applicant cites a number of factors which include support from the state department of education and various principals' associations to use the materials and resources, the validity of the framework based on a review of the literature and the focus on experimentation, procedures, action and results-oriented activities (P. 16). The applicant notes that the project specifically focuses on consistency with the work that schools do under a state program as well as NCLB with a strong focus on supplying a set of curriculum and training materials designed to raise student achievement (P. 19). The project as outlined has the capacity for replication as noted by a set of materials on curriculum, training manual, mentoring manual and assessment tools among other related activities associated with the project (P. 22). Specific selection criteria for identifying participants for the project has been clearly defined. A variety of assessment measures have been established all of which are appropriate and reflect the needs of the project (P. 23).

Weaknesses:

Weaknesses:

Although the applicant provides general background on what the project is expected to provide relative to improved teaching and learning, limited information is provided on how the project will support rigorous academic standards for students.

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:

The applicant outlines an extensive evaluation design that will incorporate qualitative and quantitative data collection. All elements of data collected are clearly defined to include how the data will be analyzed. Other noted highlights of the design include the use of an experimental that will allow for a comparative analysis among groups. Additionally, the evaluation will include the impact of the program on student achievement (P. 29). Four phases of data collections that will impact project improvements and revisions have been established. The first phase includes data collection after each module second by the end of phase I (March 2013), and through the management team at the quarterly meeting with the advisory board (P. 32).

Weaknesses:

Weaknesses:

There are no noted weaknesses.

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:

As noted by a research and a review of the literature the applicant notes that the project will contribute to the knowledge of understanding educational problems and issues based on the seven elements of leadership of the effective principal which in turn influences student achievement. Cited research referenced for the project is valid and relevant to the needs of the project and its intended purposes(P. 34). Based on the premise that system change is reflected by development of systematic mechanism for training and conditions supported by state mandates and renewal activities the applicant denotes that the project will have the intended outcome of affecting student achievement via effective leadership (P. 35). Four factors that are noted by the applicant that the project will influence include improving the knowledge of participants, improving teaching and setting an example for others, improving academic achievement and developing a model of professional development that will be supported by the state and other professional organizations (P. 36).

Weaknesses:

Weaknesses:

There are no noted weaknesses.

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:

The applicant has identified a management team that has the required professional experiences to effectively implement and manage the day to operations of the project. All duties and responsibilities associated with each staff member have been defined. The timeline outlined for the project is adequate and provides support to the project design and its many components. Additionally, the time commitment of all staff is sufficient to meet the needs of the project and its intended purposes. The inclusion of diverse perspectives to the project will take place through the establishment of an advisory committee at the project level and an expanded school improvement team. Stakeholders associated with the project will be included (P. 50). Four methods defining continuous feedback from the project that will impact continuous improvement and revisions include evaluation of each module completed, data from each cohort at the end of 30 months, operational data (formative and summative) and feedback from committed partners (P. 50).

Weaknesses:

Weaknesses:

There are no noted weaknesses.

Reader's Score: 10

Status: Submitted

Last Updated: 05/22/2010 01:59 PM

Status: Submitted

Last Updated: 05/20/2010 08:44 PM

Technical Review Coversheet

Applicant: Western Michigan University -- College of Education and Human Development ,Educational Leadership (U363A100082)

Reader #2: *****

	Points Possible	Points Scored
Questions		
Selection Criteria		
Quality of Project Design		
1. N/A	45	45
Quality of the Project Evaluation		
1. N/A	25	25
Significance		
1. N/A	20	20
Quality of the Management Plan		
1. N/A	10	10
Sub Total	100	100
Total	100	100

Technical Review Form

Panel #9 - SLP Review Panel - 9: 84.363A

Reader #2: *****

Applicant: Western Michigan University -- College of Education and Human Development ,
Educational Leadership (U363A100082)

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 part 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:

(Strength) An outstanding conceptual framework connects content of program with levels of learning as reflected in current research literature. Pairing principals with their assistant principals and assigning the same mentor to each promotes efficient and effective teamwork. The 2.5 year structure for each cohort (which combines coursework, mentoring, reflection, and renewal activities) assures a strong program impact.

Weaknesses:

(Weakness) None noted.

Reader's Score: 45

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:

(Strength) The application contains substantial plans to monitor and assess program effectiveness at numerous levels. The experimental design, which includes delayed treatment for the second cohort, will allow evaluators the opportunity to make valid inferences on project impacts. The application provides a complex statistical analysis of student data to determine the impact of the program on student achievement.

Weaknesses:

(Weakness) None noted.

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:

(Strength) The project is grounded in extensive research on the principalship. It includes a broad partnership of Michigan public school districts with the University. It clearly addresses the Secretary's three invitational priorities.

Weaknesses:

(Weakness) None noted.

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:

(Strength) Key staff have extensive credentials and experience. They are allotted sufficient time for their assigned duties under the grant. A detailed timeline of all project activities and benchmarks is provided.

Weaknesses:

(Weakness) None noted.

Reader's Score: 10

Status: Submitted

Last Updated: 05/20/2010 08:44 PM