

Abstract: The Northeast Leadership Academy 2.0:

Developing And Sustaining Effective Leaders For High-Need Rural Schools

The Northeast Leadership Academy (NELA) brings together a land-grant university and a consortium of 13 rural, high-poverty school districts to increase student achievement by preparing and retaining assistant principals and principals for high-need schools. NELA 2.0 builds upon the successes of other funded projects and is part of a comprehensive initiative to increase student achievement in NC's lowest performing schools that are coping with issues related to abject, inter-generational poverty and racial segregation. NELA 2.0 creates a comprehensive research-based leadership development and succession plan to meet the leadership needs of rural high-need schools. The goal of increasing student achievement will be achieved by: 1. Providing a high-quality professional development and individual executive coaching program to help 100 current principals of high-need schools become instructional leaders for digital learning environments and experts at providing targeted, corrective feedback to teachers (*Invitational Priority 1*); 2. Recruit and rigorously select 30 exemplary teachers with high leadership potential for a context-specific, field-based, innovative leadership preparation program to earn a principal license and a Masters degree in School Administration; 3. Provide graduates with an induction program that includes executive coaching; 4. Develop processes that allow project designed training methods and materials to be accessible and incorporated into both university leadership preparation programs and leadership professional development nationally. The project will be evaluated using a variety of both qualitative and quantitative evaluation measures with the ultimate intended outcome of improved student achievement.

NCSU, NCSU Box 7801, Raleigh, NC 27695. Principal Investigator: Dr. Bonnie Fusarelli, NC State University, 608 Poe, Raleigh, NC 27695-7801; 919-515-6359; [bonnie\\_fusarelli@ncsu.edu](mailto:bonnie_fusarelli@ncsu.edu)