

Principal Leadership Certification and Mentoring Program Region 5 Education Service Center

Abstract

Region 5 Education Service Center (**ESC 5**) is a local education agency in Southeast Texas, serving 6 counties, 35 public school districts, and more than 80,000 students. Designing and implementing an innovative solution to the critical need for alternative training and certification programs for prospective administrators in these small, remote, high poverty schools has long been a top priority within ESC 5. With \$725,463 in School Leadership Program funds in Year One, the **Principal Leadership Certification and Mentoring Program (PL- CAMP)** will meet the specific needs of seven ESC 5 high-need school districts, creating new in-house administrator certification opportunities while simultaneously bolstering the capacity of existing administrators to lead their schools with competence and efficiency. Plans are already in place to replicate **PL-CAMP** in the other 28 Region 5 school districts served by ESC 5 in Year Six.

In addition to alternative certification opportunities, and intensive mentoring and coaching for “rookie” and “ineffective” administrators, **PL-CAMP** will target administrators in all participating school districts, implementing a Professional Learning Community with the overall goal of creating, “school leaders who can utilize, promote, and sustain a powerful digital-age learning culture that provides a rigorous, relevant, and engaging education for students to promote scholastic achievement.” As ambitiously attainable performance measures indicate, it is anticipated that students in schools with administrators that participate regularly as members of the PLC will demonstrate an overall increase of 5% in proficiency attainment annually, when compared to baseline data collected in 2012-2013. With more than 15,800 students in targeted districts, this translates to an additional 790 students in high-need schools meeting state standards annually.

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