

Leadership Initiative Networking Change Project

Leadership Initiative Networking Change A Project for Practicing and Aspiring Principals

Project Abstract

Leadership Initiative Networking Change (**Project LINC**) is a cooperative effort of the Wheaton R3 School District and the Southwest Center for Educational Excellence (SWC), a consortium of forty-two rural southwest Missouri public school districts, and two private schools. SWC's mission is to provide time-sensitive, research embedded professional development for its member districts. Wheaton R3 is a model of school leadership and will act as a satellite campus for the SWC. Because research indicates a relationship between effective school leadership and student success, **Project LINC** (Leadership Initiative Networking Change) will focus on improving leadership skills and ultimately, student achievement. (Marzano, Waters, and McNulty, 2005) **Project LINC** will address the limited leadership training opportunities in high-needs rural areas and develop a model that would be sustainable for future training of school leaders.

Project LINC will train participants in effective leadership skills based on the six ISLLC (Interstate School Leader Licensure Consortium) standards and the work of Steve Barkley (Instructional Coaching with the End in Mind, 2011), incorporating tenets of the "Professional Continuum of the Missouri Leader" (Adopted by the Missouri State Board of Ed: June, 2011) and will be organized as LINC's. The LINC's will inform and help build the leadership skills needed by educators to continually grow and increase student achievement. Project LINC will pair current principals with new or aspiring principals. Evaluation instruments will help refine/revise the program for more effective future training of school leaders. The participants will complete **Project LINC** with the skills necessary to be an effective leader.