



Fall 2011 SLCP Project Director Meeting

THE EQUITY MISSION: ACHIEVING SLCP GOALS THROUGH EQUITY AWARENESS AND ACTION

Presenters: David Ruff, GSP; Angela Hernandez-Marshall, ED; Jennifer Brianas, ED

Introduction

Achieving equity for all our students has been a key part of all the SLC grant work we have done and continue to do. We want our schools to provide equity through personalized learning, access for all students to Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses, heterogeneous grouping with high expectations and rigor, to name a few examples.

Yet “equity in schools has still not been reached. But for students—who by virtue of their race, ethnic background, sex or national origin are deprived of their civil rights and an equal opportunity to a quality education—equity is a promise they are depending on for their future.”

This is a quote from the website of the South Central Collaborative for Equity (SCCE) which is one of 10 federally funded centers that provide technical assistance and training at the request of school districts and other responsible governmental agencies in the preparation, adoption and implementation of plans for the desegregation of public schools. How many here are aware of these centers in your region? How many have accessed them for assistance?

Public schools can do what they choose to educate their students within certain limits and parameters, but they are accountable for educating *all* learners to high academic standards and outcomes regardless of differing characteristics of those learners. Bradley Scott, Ph.D., (director of the equity assistance center at IDRA) has proposed six goals of education equity. The South Central Collaborative for Equity, has embraced the goals of educational equity and the nine other equity assistance centers have embraced the goals as well.

The Six Goals: Think about which goal feels most important to address in your school.

To help you along your journey to achieve the goal of equity on all fronts at your schools, Dr. Scott has also developed a helpful ranking scale for examining those practices in your school that would ensure that each goal is achieved.

Directions for Activity

1. Please take a look at the Six Goals and ranking scale document on your table. There should be one for each of you.
2. Take the next few minutes to examine the questions for the goal you've chosen for your school.
3. Use the scale to determine where you feel your school/district ranks in their achievement of this goal.
4. When you have completed your ranking, go back and write down at least four next steps you will take when you return to your school or district: Who can you

access for help with your selected equity goal? What data will you need? How will this fit into your SLC action plan?

5. When you have sketched out your four steps, turn to another tablemate and share your plans with each other, giving feedback and additional ideas to help each other in deepening the equity work at your school.
6. Concluding remarks.