Boston Teacher Quality Network

PR#: U336S140088
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Priorities: AP2, CP1, CP2

Abstract: The Boston Public Schools has made the strategic decision to use school autonomy as a primary approach to school improvement. To implement that strategy successfully, the growing number of autonomous schools have a need for high quality, diverse educators who are prepared to drive student learning for underserved students in schools that are organized differently than the traditional school. BPE’s Boston Teacher Residency, one of the oldest teaching residency programs in the country, and Teach Next Year, a residency program at the University of Massachusetts Boston, are partnering with four expanding autonomous school districts in Boston, all of which have demonstrated rapid success in dramatically improving student achievement. As these schools, each of which constitutes its own LEA, expand to serve more children, they will need the right human capital to lead the work. Working together over the next five years, the Boston Teacher Quality Network will recruit, prepare, and support 260 teachers, significantly improve student learning in the partner LEAs, and use theautonomies afforded to the LEAs to further advance and refine the teacher residency design. The network residencies are best positioned to fill these positions with highly qualified, long-term, diverse teachers who are trained to maximize the autonomies within schools to improve student achievement.

Project Objectives and Expected Outcomes.

- Fulfill the human capital needs of partner LEAs by preparing and supporting highly effective new teachers in the high-need areas of math, science, literacy, early childhood, special education, and ESL.
- Diversify the teacher pipeline by ensuring 50% of each cohort of residents are people of color.
- Increase teacher retention by ensuring that 80% of graduates teach in high-need LEAs for three or more years.
- Improve teacher preparation for high-need students by ensuring all graduates are trained to implement standards-aligned curricula, use collaborative, data-driven practices to drive improvement, collaborate and innovate, and integrate theory and practice.
- Improve student achievement by ensuring that at least 70% of students in residents and graduates' classrooms achieve ambitious student learning targets.

Number of teachers to be served in the project: 260

List of Partners: BPE, formerly the Boston Plan for Excellence, is the lead partner. Others are:
1. Institution of Higher Education: University of Massachusetts, Boston
   a. Teacher Preparation Program at IHE: Teach Next Year
   b. School of Arts and Sciences at IHE: College of Science and Mathematics
2. Local Educational Agencies: Boston Green Academy Horace Mann Charter School (District), Dudley Street Neighborhood Charter School (District), UP Academy Charter School of Boston (District), and UP Academy Charter School of Dorchester (District)