

3n. Achieving High Standards for All Students

Proven policies and practices for... POINTS

- Creating educational opportunities that address individual students' learning needs _____
- Providing supplemental supports for students to achieve high standards _____
- Using an ongoing assessment process to provide continuous feedback to students _____
- Challenging students at all grade and ability levels _____

TOTAL = 10

3o. Partnering with Parents and Community Members for Improved Student Learning

Proven policies and practices for... POINTS

- Obtaining parent and community input for planning school and district improvement _____
- Involving parents in instructional decisions about their children's learning _____
- Expanding avenues for parents and the community to support student learning _____
- Engaging parents and community in schools in a meaningful way _____

TOTAL = 10

3p. Can you think of any specific practices or strategies being used in your school or district for creating effective partnerships with parents and community members that you think are promising and would like to have evaluated for effectiveness?

Please describe briefly.

3q. Can you think of any promising practices or strategies for issues that were not included in this survey that you would like to have evaluated for effectiveness?

Please describe briefly.

4a. Primary subject area taught:

4b. What grade levels are you directly responsible for in your position? (Check all grades that apply.)

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-K | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> 11 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> K | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> 12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> Post HS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> 10 | |

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME AND OPINIONS

Please return your survey in the envelope provided, to:
 Gilmore Research Group, 2324 Eastlake Avenue East, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98102

Paperwork Burden Statement

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Finding the Strategies that Work: Asking Educators What the Research Agenda Should Be

Note: If you prefer to complete the survey online, log on at: <http://www.tobedetermined.org>. Please login using the six-digit code in the upper left-hand corner as your PIN number.

Section 1 - Your District's Experience in Identifying and Implementing Best Practices

In recent years a stronger focus has been placed on the use of data and research to drive instructional decision-making in classrooms, schools, and school districts. A primary focus of REL-NW, which operates under contract with the U.S. Department of Education, is to help state and local education agencies using data and research to identify, evaluate and implement successful practices appropriate for their schools and districts. We are interested in learning something about your school's or district's experiences in identifying and implementing best practices.

Please indicate to what extent each of the following is a problem for your school by circling the appropriate rating 1-10 below.

1a. Identifying problem areas that impact student learning the most

Not a Problem 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Major Problem

If you rated this item 5 or higher, please explain why it is a problem.

1c. Implementing new practices as designed

Not a Problem 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Major Problem

If you rated this item 5 or higher, please explain why it is a problem.

1b. Finding practices that are likely to work in my school

Not a Problem 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Major Problem

If you rated this item 5 or higher, please explain why it is a problem.

1d. Achieving the results you were led to expect from new practices

Not a Problem 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Major Problem

If you rated this item 5 or higher, please explain why it is a problem.

Section 2 - Successes and Challenges for your School

2a. What is the single most important factor that has contributed to positive student performance in your school?

Please describe briefly:

2b. What are you finding to be the biggest obstacles to improving student learning?

Please describe briefly:

Please allocate 10 points among the options for each question below, based on the kinds of research and best practices information that would be most useful to your school.

Section 3 - Identifying Research Needs for Northwest Schools

Recently Northwest educators identified eleven critical school improvement issues in the region that could be better informed by research. We are asking your assistance in identifying specifically where schools such as yours might benefit from having better evidence of successful practices that address these issues; practices that meet your school's unique needs.

There are four options listed below for each of the eleven issues. You have 10 points to allocate among the options in each issue. You can assign each option any value from 0 to 10, including decimals. Give the most points to the option that would provide the greatest benefit to student learning in your school.

3a.Improving School Attendance

P r o v e n p o l i c i e s a n d p r a c t i c e s f o r...POINTS

Strengthening connections between home and school _____

Dealing with the effects of family culture on school attendance _____

Creating school as a welcoming place for students and families _____

Developing a safety net of support systems for students that can promote improved attendance _____

TOTAL = 10

3b. Increasing High School Graduation Rates

P r o v e n p o l i c i e s a n d p r a c t i c e s f o r...POINTS

Early identification of students that may be at risk for eventually dropping out _____

Providing supplemental supports (K-12) for students at risk for eventually dropping out _____

Working with parents and the community to improve graduation outcomes _____

Designing effective alternative education programs _____

TOTAL = 10

3c. Can you think of any specific practices or strategies being used in your school or district for improving school attendance and/or keeping students in school that you think are promising and would like to have evaluated for effectiveness?

Please describe briefly.

3d. Leading School Improvement

P r o v e n p o l i c i e s a n d p r a c t i c e s f o r...POINTS

Recruiting and retaining principals who can lead school improvement efforts _____

Recruiting and retaining teachers who can help lead change efforts _____

Providing on-going professional development of principals to lead change efforts _____

Creating teacher teams to support and sustain improvement efforts _____

TOTAL = 10

3e. Sustaining School and District Improvements

P r o v e n p o l i c i e s a n d p r a c t i c e s f o r...POINTS

Creating more opportunities for teacher collaboration on school improvement _____

Developing staff support for changes in school programs and practices _____

Determining the resources and support my school needs to carry out improvement efforts _____

Maintaining continuity of improvement efforts regardless of personnel changes _____

TOTAL = 10

3f. Can you think of any specific practices or strategies being used in your school or district for leading and/or sustaining school improvement efforts that you think are promising and would like to have evaluated for effectiveness?

Please describe briefly.

3g. Providing Effective Professional Development for Teachers

P r o v e n p o l i c i e s a n d p r a c t i c e s f o r...POINTS

Using on-going assessment in the classroom to align instruction with standards _____

Developing teacher skills at self-evaluation and reflection to improve their classroom practices _____

Developing effective collaboration skills and techniques _____

Training teachers to partner effectively with parents to support student learning _____

TOTAL = 10

3h.Preparing Prospective Teachers to Teach

P r o v e n p o l i c i e s a n d p r a c t i c e s f o r...POINTS

Preparing prospective teachers to be able to teach in a standards-based environment _____

Preparing prospective teachers to be able to collaborate as teams to improve teaching and learning _____

Strengthening the content knowledge of prospective teachers in core academic areas _____

Preparing prospective teachers to be able to use school and classroom assessment to guide instructional practices _____

TOTAL = 10

Can you think of any specific professional development practices or strategies for current and/or prospective teachers that you think are promising and would like to have evaluated for effectiveness? Please describe briefly.

3j. Improving Mathematics Instruction

P r o v e n p o l i c i e s a n d p r a c t i c e s f o r...POINTS

Providing instruction that fosters an understanding and application of content _____

Providing challenging mathematics learning opportunities to address diverse learning styles and needs of students _____

Identifying mathematics teaching practices that would be effective in your school or district _____

Vertically aligning the mathematics curriculum from kindergarten through grade 12 _____

TOTAL = 10

3k.Improving Science Instruction

P r o v e n p o l i c i e s a n d p r a c t i c e s f o r...POINTS

Teaching students to effectively apply scientific principles and processes _____

Providing challenging science learning opportunities to address diverse learning styles and needs of students _____

Identifying science teaching practices that would be effective in your school or district _____

Vertically aligning the science curriculum from kindergarten through grade 12 _____

TOTAL = 10

3l.Improving Literacy Instruction

P r o v e n p o l i c i e s a n d p r a c t i c e s f o r...POINTS

Integrating reading and writing across the curriculum _____

Providing challenging literacy learning opportunities to address diverse learning styles and needs of students _____

Identifying literacy teaching practices that would be effective in your school or district _____

Vertically aligning the literacy curriculum from kindergarten through grade 12 _____

TOTAL = 10

Can you think of any specific practices or strategies for improving mathematics, science or literacy instruction being used in your school or district that you think are promising and would like to have evaluated for effectiveness? Please describe briefly.
