Appendix L

Principal Survey 2006-2007 School Year

Conversion Magnet Schools Evaluation

Principal Survey 2006-2007 School Year

June 2007

Paperwork Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is **XXXX–XXXX**. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 35 minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. **If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to:** U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202–4700. **If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, write directly to:** Lauren Angelo, U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, Room 502h, 555 New Jersey Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20208.

Dear Principal:

The Conversion Magnet School Evaluation is a national study designed to examine the relationship between magnet programs on the academic achievement and minority group isolation of elementary school students. This study includes schools that have recently introduced magnet programs as well as schools that do not currently offer them. Because you are the principal of a school that is part of the study, we are asking you to complete this survey, which we estimate will take about a half hour of your time. Your participation is voluntary, but it is important and very much appreciated. Below are answers to some general questions concerning your participation.

What is the purpose of this survey?

The purpose of this survey is to obtain background information on principals and the resources, staffing, climate and programs at their schools. This information will help provide a sound basis for evaluating and understanding the relationship of magnet schools to student achievement and minority group isolation based on an examination of changes over time and the context surrounding these changes.

Who is conducting this survey?

The Conversion Magnet School Evaluation was commissioned by the Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences (IES), in collaboration with the Office of Innovation and Improvement (OII). The study is being conducted for IES by the American Institutes for Research (AIR) and Berkeley Policy Associates (BPA).

Why should you participate in this survey?

You are an expert on the strengths of and the challenges facing elementary schools in this country, and the only individual capable of providing us with first-hand information about your school's unique circumstances. Policymakers and educational leaders rely on findings from studies like the Conversion Magnet School Evaluation to inform their decisions. The current study will fill a critical gap in the literature about the relationship between magnet school programs and student outcomes, which can inform educators and parents alike.

How will your information be reported?

The information you provide will be combined with the information provided by others to describe the general group of schools in statistical reports. No individual data that link your name, address, or telephone number with your responses will be included in the statistical reports.

Will your responses be kept confidential?

Your individual responses are protected from disclosure by federal statute (P.L. 107-279, Title I, Part E, Sec.183). Responses to this data collection will be used only for statistical purposes. The reports prepared for this study will summarize findings across the sample and will not associate responses with a specific district or individual. We will not provide information that identifies you or your district to anyone outside the study team, except as required by law.

Where should you return your completed survey?

Please place your completed survey in the enclosed envelope and follow the return instructions provided by AIR and BPA.

Thank you very much for your help in this important study.

Instructions

- It is important that this questionnaire be completed by the school PRINCIPAL.
- The questions in this survey refer to the 2006-2007 school year.
- If you were not the principal in 2006-2007, you may need to consult with key staff who worked in the school that year.
- If you are unsure about how to answer a question, please give the best answer you can rather than leave it blank.

Please write your answers directly on the questionnaire by marking the appropriate box, circling the appropriate number, or by writing your answer in the space given.

Thank you for your cooperation in this very important effort!

Staffing and Teacher Characteristics

I-1). How many full and part time teachers were teaching here in October of the 2003-2004 and 2006-2007 school years? *Please include in your counts all regular classroom or general education teachers, special area or resources teachers, and long-term substitute teachers. Do not include student teachers or short term substitute teachers. Record counts of individuals, not FTEs (full time equivalents).*

	October 2003-2004	October 2006-2007
Full-time teachers		
Part-time teachers		

I-2). How many new full and part time teachers did your school hire over the three school years from 2004-2005 through 2006-2007? *Please include all teachers who were newly hired during this time period to work at your school, even if they are no longer working at your school. However, count each individual only once based on their current or last status as a full or part-time teacher at the school. Do <u>not</u> include student teachers or individuals serving as short term substitutes. <i>Record counts of individuals, <u>not</u> FTEs (full time equivalents).*

	Count of Newly Hired Teachers 2004-2005 through 2006-2007
Full-time teachers	
Part-time teachers	

1. How many staff members did your school employ in 2006-2007 in the following categories? *Please provide counts in Column (1) of staff members who worked full time at your school and in column (2) of staff members who worked part time at your school. Place each staff member in only one staff category. If there was no staff in your school in a category, enter "0" on the line for that category. Record counts of individuals, not FTEs (full time equivalents).*

	Staff Category	(1) Number who worked <u>full time</u> in the school	(2) Number who worked <u>part time</u> in the school
a.	General education teachers		
b.	Gym, drama, music or art teachers		
c.	Special education and related service providers		
d.	ESL/Bilingual education teachers		
e.	Reading teachers/specialists		
f.	Teachers of gifted/talented		
g.	School nurse or health professional		
h.	School psychologist, social worker, or counselor		
i.	Paraprofessionals (e.g., classroom aides or library assistance)		
j.	Library media specialists/librarian		

2. How many of your school's full-time and part-time teachers in 2006-2007 were members of the following groups? *Write the number on each line. Enter "0" on the line if your school has no teachers of that racial-ethnic group.*

	Number
a. Asian or Pacific Islander	
b. Hispanic, regardless of race	
c. Black, not of Hispanic origin	
d. White, not of Hispanic origin	
e. American Indian or Alaska Native	

School Facilities and Resources

3. How many students is your school currently designed to serve? (Do **not** include space provided by portables or other temporary instructional space.)

__Students

(If your school consists entirely of portable [temporary] buildings, check here: \Box and enter the number of students the portable [temporary] buildings are designed to serve on the line above. Then skip to question 5.)

- a. Does this school have one or more portable (temporary) buildings?
 Yes
 No
 - b. How many additional students (i.e., beyond the number reported above in response to question #3) are the portable (temporary) buildings designed to serve?

_____ Students

5. What is the total number of computers in this school? *Include computers used for instructional and administrative purposes. If none, mark (X) the box.*

	None –	Go to	item 8
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_____ Number of computers

6. Of the total number of computers in this school, how many are used for instructional purposes?

____ Number of computers

- 7. Do most students have access to the Internet through computers located in this school?
 - No

School Climate and Safety

Indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements about the school's climate. *Mark* (*X*) one box in each row.

		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
a.	Parents are actively involved in	Ľ	Ŭ		Ŭ	Ŭ
	this school's programs.	_	_	_	_	_
b.	Teacher absenteeism is a					
	problem at this school.					
с.	Teacher turnover is a problem					
	at this school.					
d.	Child absenteeism is a problem					
	at this school.					
e.	The community served by this					
	school is supportive of its goals and activities.					
f.	There is a consensus among					
1.	administrators and teachers on		_		-	-
	goals and expectations.					
g.	Order and discipline are					
0	maintained satisfactorily in the					
	building(s).					
h.	Overcrowding is a problem at					
	this school.	_	_	_	_	_
i.	Parents of children in this					
	school are welcome to observe					
	classes any time they are in					
	session.					

Did any of the following types of problems occur at this school during the 2006-2007 school 9. year? *Mark* (*X*) one box in each row.

		Yes	No
a.	Children bringing weapons to school?		
b.	Things being taken directly from children or teachers by force or threat		
	of force at school or on the way to or from school?		
с.	Children or teachers being physically attacked or involved in fights?		
d.	Children bringing in or using alcohol at school?		
e.	Children bringing in or using illegal drugs at school?		
f.	Vandalism of school property?		

^{8.}

Professional Development

- 10. a. In the 2006-2007 school year, did this school provide **teachers** with time for professional development during regular contract hours?
 - Ses—Continue with Item 10b
 - □ No—Go to Item 11
 - b. Were the following used to provide teachers with time for professional development during regular contract hours? *Mark* (*X*) *one box in each row*.

	Yes	No
Substitutes to cover teachers' classes?		
Early dismissal or late start for students?		
Professional days built in before the beginning of the school year?		
Professional days built in during the school year?		
Professional days built in after the school year?		
Common planning time for teachers for professional		
development?		
Reduced teacher work loads (Less time in the classroom with		
students, or less time or assigned non-instructional duties) for		
professional development?		

11. During the 2006-2007 school year, approximately how much emphasis did the school place on professional development for teachers in the following areas? *Mark* (*X*) *one box in each row*.

Professional development areas	No emphasis	Little emphasis	Moderate emphasis	A great deal of emphasis
In-depth study in the core academic subjects taught				
New methods of teaching (e.g., cooperative learning)				
State or district curriculum and performance standards				
Integration of educational technology in the grade or subject taught				
Student performance assessment (e.g., methods of testing, interpreting assessment data, applying results to modify instruction)				
Classroom management (including student discipline)				

Question 11 continued on the next page.

11. Continued from previous page. *Mark* (*X*) *one box in each row*.

Professional development areas Addressing the needs of students with limited English proficiency or from diverse cultural backgrounds	No emphasis	Little emphasis	Moderate emphasis	A great deal of emphasis
Addressing the needs of students with disabilities				
Addressing the needs of struggling readers Other (<i>Please specify</i>):				

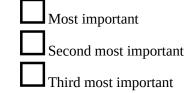
12. Does this school use coaches* to help teachers strengthen their teaching in the following areas? *Mark (X) one box in each row.*

	Yes	No
Reading		
Mathematics		

*Whereas reading or mathematics <u>specialists</u> work directly with students, reading and mathematics <u>coaches</u> work directly with teachers to improve their teaching of reading and mathematics.

Goals and Decision Making

- 13. We are interested in the importance you place on various educational goals. From the following nine goals, which do you consider the most important, the second most important, and the third most important? (*Please write the numbers of the three most important goals in the boxes below.*)
 - 1- Building basic literacy skills (reading, math, writing, speaking)
 - 2- Encouraging academic excellence
 - 3- Promoting occupational or vocational skills
 - 4- Promoting good work habits and self-discipline
 - 5- Promoting personal growth (self-esteem, self-knowledge, etc.)
 - 6- Promoting human relations skills
 - 7- Promoting multi-cultural awareness or understanding
 - 8- Fostering religious or spiritual development



14. How much ACTUAL influence do you think each of the following groups or people has on decisions concerning the following activities? *Mark (X) one box in each row.*

a.	Est	ablishing curriculum at this school	No Influence	Minor Influence	Moderate Influence	Major Influence
	1.	I				
		other state-level bodies (e.g., state board of education)				
	2.	Local school board				
	3.	School district staff				
	4.	Principal				
	5.	Teachers				
	6.	Curriculum specialists				
	7.	Parent association				
b.		termining the content of in-service ofessional development programs for	No Influence	Minor Influence	Moderate Influence	Major Influence
		chers at this school	innuence	IIIIuence	innuence	innuence
	1.	State department of education or				
		other state-level bodies (e.g., state				
		board of education)				
	2.	Local school board				
	3.	School district staff				
	4.	Principal				
	5.	Teachers				
	6.	Curriculum specialists				
	7.	Parent association				

Parental Involvement

15. During the 2006-2007 school year, about how many of the parents at your school participated or were involved in each of the following? ("Parents" includes parents and other caregivers.)

	None / not offered	10% or fewer	11%- 30%	31%- 50%	50% or more
Open house or back-to-school night					
Regularly scheduled school-wide parent-teacher conferences					
Special subject-area events (e.g., science fair, concert)					
Parent education workshops or courses offered					
Parent-child learning activities at school					
Parents involved in instructional issues					
Parents involved in governance					
Parents involved in budget decisions					

Program and Practices

16. Does your school have any of the following special features? *Mark the box in the first column if your school offered this feature in 2006-2007. Mark the box in the second column if your school offered this feature in 2003-2004.*

	2006-2007	2003-2004
a. Program with a curricular focus		
Academics (rigorous, classical, etc) Mathematics Science Technology Arts (visual arts, music, drama, dance, etc.) Communication Multicultural/international awareness Languages (e.g., dual immersion, Spanish, Chinese) Character development Other specialized curricular focus (<i>Please specify</i>):		
b. Instructional approaches		
Team teaching Cooperative learning groups Integrating multi-sensory or hands-on activities Integrating computers/multi-media Interdisciplinary teaching (i.e., two or more teachers with different specializations collaborate to teach an interdisciplinary program to the same group of students.) Long-term project-based learning to integrate knowledge Student groups that remain two or more years with the same teacher (e.g. looping) Simulations/role play Other special instructional approach (<i>Please specify</i>):		
c. Assessment approaches		
Progress monitoring Diagnostic testing Portfolio assessment Other special assessment approach (<i>Please specify</i>):		

Question 16 continued on next page.

16. Continued from the previous page. *Mark the box in the first column if your school offered this feature in 2006-2007. Mark the box in the second column if your school offered this feature in 2003-2004.*

d. Comprehensive school reform models	2006-2007	2003-2004
Comer School		
Accelerated Schools		
Success for All/Roots and Wings		
Montessori School		
Other school reform model (<i>Please specify</i>):		
e. Other		
Other special offering (Please describe):		

17. In each grade, which of the following goals are considered *important* in assigning students to classrooms at the beginning of the school year?

				Grade	е		
Goals	K	1	2	3	4	5	6
None (assignment is random)							
Grouping students by ability (i.e.,							
homogeneous by ability)			_	_			
Maintaining mixed ability classrooms							
Wantaning mixed ability classioonis		_	—	—	—	—	—
Maintaining socioeconomic diversity							
		_					
Maintaining race-ethnic diversity							
5							
Maintaining same-sex classrooms							
0							
Matching teacher strengths to student needs							

18. DROPPED THIS QUESTION

School Improvement Strategies

Looking back over the last three school years (2004-2005 through 2006-07), how much has your 19. school focused on the following strategies in its improvement efforts? *Mark (X) one box in each* row.

School was		Not a focus	Minor focus	Moderate Focus	Major focus
a.	Using student achievement data to inform instruction and school improvement				
b.	Aligning curriculum and instruction with standards and/or assessments				
c.	Implementing new instructional approaches or curricula in <u>reading/language arts/English</u>				
d.	Implementing new instructional approaches or curricula in <u>mathematics</u>				
e.	Providing additional instruction to low-achieving students				
f.	Restructuring the school day to teach core content areas in greater depth (e.g., establishing a literacy block)				
g.	Increasing instructional time for all students (e.g., by lengthening the school day or year, shortening recess)				
h.	Providing extended-time instructional programs (e.g., before-school, after-school or weekend instructional programs)				
i.	Implementing strategies for increasing parents' involvement in their children's education				
j.	Increasing the intensity, focus and effectiveness of professional development				

20. As a general school policy, how many hours and minutes <u>per week</u> do third-grade students in your school spend learning each of the following subjects? (*Write in the total numbers of hours and minutes per week. Example: For 1 ½ hours per day, write "7" hours and "30" minutes per week.*)

	Times per week for typical 3 rd grade student in your school					
	Hours per week	Minutes per week				
a. Mathematics						
b. Reading/language arts/English						
c. Science						
d. Social studies/ History						
e. Art/Music						
f. Physical education/Health						
g. Other						

- 21. For each of the following extended-time <u>instructional</u> programs, please indicate whether such a program is available in your school, and if so, enter the:
 - A. Number of children served
 - B. Number of hours children are served per week
 - C. Number of weeks children are served per year

(Report <u>only</u> on instructional programs and do <u>not</u> include preschool, summer school, before- or after-school child care, clubs, or recreation programs. Mark the box if the program is available in your school, and if so, write in numbers in each box below.)

	Program available	A. Number of children served	B. Number of hours per week	C. Number of weeks per year
1. Before-school tutorial or instructional program				
2. After-school tutorial or instructional program				
3. Weekend tutorial or instructional program				

I-3a Did this school make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) as defined by No Child Left Behind in each of the following years? *For each year, please mark the box in the row corresponding to whether or not this school met AYP*.

Did School	School Year								
make AYP in?	2002-2003*	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007				
Yes									
No									
District had not implemented AYP*									

*(For the column labeled "2002-2003", mark the box in this row if your district did not require reporting of AYP under No Child Left Behind in that year.)

If your school made AYP in every year, please skip to question 22, otherwise continue with question I-3b.

I-3b. Please indicate the corrective action, if any, your school took as a response to not meeting AYP and the year(s) from 2003-2004 to 2006-2007 in which your school engaged in that action by marking an X in the appropriate box(es).

Type of Corrective Action							
Undertaken	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007		
No action taken as none was required							
Adopted program improvement plan							
Converted to magnet school							
Converted to charter school							
Worked with outside expert to advise school							
Offered students transfers to schools of choice that are not in need of improvement							
Offered students supplemental education services (e.g. tutoring)							
Implemented new instructional approaches or curricula							
Extended length of school day or year							
Replaced staff members with poor performance							
Decreased authority of school administrators							
Reconstituted the school*							
Contracted with a private entity to manage the school							
Turned over operation of the school to the state							
Other (specify)							

(*A school is reconstituted when all school personnel contracts are cancelled and new administrators/staff/teachers are hired.)

Principal Background

22.		or to the 2006-2007 school year, how many years were you employed in each of the following sitions? <i>Count part of a year as 1 year. If none, mark (X) the box.</i>
	a.	As principal of this school None or years
	b.	As principal of another school or schools None or years
23.	a.	How many years of elementary or secondary teaching experience did you have PRIOR to becoming a principal? <i>Count part of a year as one year. If none, mark (X) the box.</i> None or year(s) of teaching
	b.	 Did you hold any school position other than teaching BEFORE you became a principal (e.g., department head, curriculum specialist, assistant principal or program director, guidance counselor, athletic coach, sponsor for student clubs or debate teams)? Yes – <i>Please describe:</i> No
24.	Wl	 hat is the highest degree you have earned? <i>Mark (X) only one box</i>. Associate degree Bachelor's degree (B.A., B.S., B.E., etc.) Master's degree (M.A., M.A.T., M.B.A., M.Ed., M.S., etc.) Education specialist or professional diploma (at least one year beyond master's level) Doctorate or professional degree (Ph.D., Ed.D., M.D., L.L.B., J.D., D.D.S.) Do not have a degree

- What is your gender? Male 25.

 - Female
- Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin? Yes, I am Hispanic or Latino No, I am not Hispanic or Latino 26.

- a. What is your race? *Mark (X) one or more races to describe yourself.* 27.
 - U White
 - Black or African American
 - □ Asian
 - □ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
 - American Indian or Alaska Native *Go to item 27b*
 - b. Are you enrolled in a state or federally recognized tribe?Yes

 - D No

-MSAP SCHOOL PRINCIPALS ONLY-

Principal Role and Implementation of the MSAP Program¹

- 28. If you were a principal of this school **during** the 2003-2004 school year, continue with Item 28a. If you became principal of this school **after** the 2003-2004 school year, please go to Item 28b.
 - a. What role, if any, did the fact that this school was designated as an MSAP magnet school (i.e., received a federal magnet grant) have in your continuing as principal after the 2003-2004 school year? *Mark (X) one box*.
 - Little or no role: I would have remained as principal without the magnet program.
 - □ Some role: I remained in part because I was interested in the magnet program.
 - □ The MSAP designation played a strong role: I remained as principal specifically because of my interest in the magnet program.

Go to Item 29.

- b. What role, if any, did the fact that this school was designated as an MSAP magnet school (i.e., received a federal magnet grant) have in your becoming principal after the 2003-2004 school year? *Mark (X) one box*.
 - Little or no role: I would have become principal here even without the magnet program.
 - Some role: I became principal here in part because I was interested in the magnet program.
 - A strong role: I was hired specifically to manage the magnet program in this school.

Go to Item 29.

- 29. To what extent were you involved in applying for or planning the magnet program for this school (i.e., during the development of the MSAP grant application and the start-up of the program)? *Mark (X) one box.*
 - Not involved
 - □ Slightly involved
 - □ Moderately involved
 - Strongly involved
- 30. How easy or difficult has it been to build a staff in this school that actively supports the magnet program (e.g., its curriculum, teaching methods, and activities)? *Mark* (*X*) *one box*.
 - U Very easy
 - **G** Fairly easy
 - **G** Fairly difficult
 - □ Very difficult

¹ MSAP is the Magnet Schools Assistance Program, the federal grant that is supporting your magnet program.

- 31. Was part of the grant period used for planning before the program was implemented at the school?
 - Yes—When did implementation begin? ______
 No
- 32. How complete was the implementation of the following components of the intended magnet program by the end of the first (2004-2005) and last (2006-2007) years of the grant?

		2004-2005						2006-2007		
Implementation Category	Not at All	Somewhat	Mostly	Fully	Not Applicable	Not at All	Somewhat	Mostly	Fully	Not Applicable
Hiring specialist staff										
Hiring new staff who are enthusiastic about implementing magnet plan										
Providing professional staff development related to intended magnet program										
Obtaining instructional Materials/equipment										
Planning curriculum										
Delivering curriculum (e.g., special activities, lessons)										
Creating new assessments										

I-4. How important is completion of the following implementation activities to the success of the magnet program? (*Please check one response category for each activity. Separately, in the right-most column, please identify the one implementation activity from the list, the completion of which is most important to the success of the magnet program.*)

	Importance of Completing Implementation of Activity to Success of the Magnet Program				What is the
Implementation Activity	Not Important or Not Applicable	Minor Importance	Moderate Importance	Major Importance	Most Important Activity (Choose only one)
Hiring specialist staff					
Hiring new staff who are enthusiastic about implementing magnet plan					
Providing professional staff development related to intended magnet program					
Obtaining instructional materials/equipment					
Planning curriculum					
Delivering curriculum (e.g., Special activities, lessons)					
Creating new assessments					

Thank you for your help!