

ESEA Flexibility Community Engagement Forum

Comments from Audience

Friday, October 28, 2011

Discussion Topic #1: College, Career, and Citizen Readiness

- 1) Encourage districts to be involved in outside agencies that connects community and school for students
- 2) Collaborate at young age (be pro active)
- 3) Work in the school, build a relationship between school and business
- 4) Mentors for struggling students
- 5) Students observe potential careers
- 6) Research the outcomes we want to see...What does higher Ed expect?
- 7) 8th and 9th grade students should be able to take career tech classes
- 8) Reward community service or make it part of the High School diploma requirements --it makes better citizens

Discussion Topic #2: Areas of School Accountability

- 1) More time to achieve goals
- 2) Growth models with immediate feed back
- 3) More time for collaboration/PD \$\$\$\$
- 4) Give credit to schools that may not appear to achieve, but have growth
- 5) Incorporate parents into accountability system
- 6) United States is the only country that educates all students for 13 yrs. Why do we compare test scores?
- 7) Need parental accountability...not just attendance but homework and support
- 8) If students have shown growth overall, the school should be graded positively
- 9) Each school should keep records and report percent of parents attending
- 10) Align accountability w/all the areas of common core
- 11) Use only the ACT for school accountability

Discussion Topic #3: Recognitions for Excellent Schools

- 1) Grants for children of teachers
- 2) Stipends based on test scores/merit pay
- 3) Research on what rewards work best
- 4) Equalize demographics
- 5) Provide additional PD
- 6) Foster collaboration not competition
- 7) Rewards must relate to the district
- 8) Recognize students who score "advanced" maybe stipend or scholarship
- 9) Appreciate teachers and administration through collaboration with business (community sponsored lunch)

Discussion Topic #4: Supports and Interventions for Unsuccessful Schools

- 1) Reform on how IEP students are tested. Standardized portfolio
- 2) Accountability on ELL students not being assessed appropriately
- 3) Decision making back in the hands of teachers
- 4) Eliminate "seat time requirement" for credit
- 5) Principals need to be back in the classroom
- 6) Re think graduation rate. Some students can complete in 3 some 5
- 7) Use technology to eliminate paperwork
- 8) Bring teachers and Administrators together to see what works best/who provides resources
- 9) ELL/EIP districts should not be penalized ...create different standards
- 10) More one-on-one assistance with ELL students
- 11) Address poverty -safe, healthy environment for students and family
- 12) Increase after school programs
- 13) Stop looking at "ensuring success" and look at providing opportunity
- 14) More assistance in classroom for teachers
- 15) Remove poor performing teachers/Administrators
- 16) Additional assistance for challenges/low performing
- 17) Education Department should be standing up for public education and need for individual students. Need more emphasis on current success than failures.