Preparing High School Teacher Candidates To Deliver College and Career Ready Instruction

November 3, 2009



"The challenge facing education schools is not to do a better job at what they are already doing, but to do a fundamentally different job. They are now in the business of preparing teachers for a new world."

—Arthur Levine



Outline of the Brief

- Expectation of College and Career Readiness for All
- Shifting From Coursework to Performance
- Key Elements of What Secondary Educators Should Know and Be Able To Do
- Performance Assessments and Data Systems
- Federal Policy Recommendations



New Expectations For Teaching

- College and Career Readiness for All
- Increasing Diverse Student Population
- Wide Variety of Learning Needs



Shifting From Coursework to Performance

- Preparation appropriate for today's teacher candidates
- Focus on "outputs" instead of "inputs"
- Moving away from "alternative versus traditional"

One High Bar for All Teacher Candidates



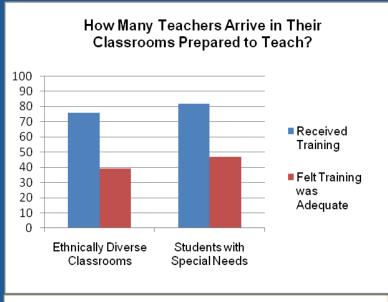
Key Elements

- Educating Diverse Learners
- Teaching Adolescent Literacy Skills
- Demonstrating Proficiency in Assessment and Data Use
- Preparing to Teach in High Needs Schools
- Mastering Content Area Knowledge and Content Specific Instruction



Key Elements (cont.)

Educating Diverse Learners



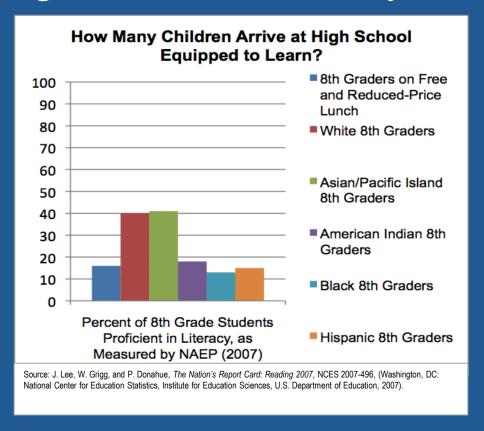
Source: J. Rochkind et al., Lessons Learned: New Teachers Talk About Their Jobs, Challenges and Long-Range Plans, Issue No. 3: Teaching in Changing Times, a report from the National Comprehensive Center for Teacher Quality and Public Agenda, 2008.

Example of Best Practice: Portland State University Secondary Dual Educator Program



Key Elements (cont.)

Teaching Adolescent Literacy Skills



Example of Best Practice: University of Michigan



Key Elements (cont.)

- Demonstrating Proficiency in Assessment and Data Use
- Example of Best Practice: Teach For America
- Preparing To Teach in High Needs Schools
- Example of Best Practice: Urban Teacher Residency Programs
- Mastering Content Area Knowledge and Content Specific Instruction
- Example of Best Practice: Stanford Teacher Education Program



Performance Assessments and Data Systems

• Performance Assessments

- Challenges With Current Assessments
- Opportunity for Teacher Candidates To Demonstrate Key Competencies
- One High Bar For All Teacher Candidates in All Programs
- Example of Best Practice: national teacher performance assessment

Data Systems

- Longitudinal Data System with Unique Teacher Identifier (currently only 21 states)
- Linking Teacher information with Student Achievement
- Sharing information with Teacher Preparation Programs
- Example of Best Practice: Louisiana



Federal Policy Recommendations

- Focus on teacher performance instead of teacher education coursework.
- Encourage the creation of performance based assessments.
- Increase the supply of high quality teachers by supportive effective programs and closing ineffective ones.
- Build and enhance robust data systems.
- Invest in research.



Thank You!

We are grateful to MetLife Foundation for its financial support for this brief.

The findings and conclusions presented are those of the Alliance and do not necessarily represent the views of the funder.