How Can SEA and LEAs Work Together to Implement LEAP action plan?

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Shared Goal: Acceleration with Equity at the Center

- RI Interim Assessment and Attendance Trend (LEAP Meeting #2):
  - High rates of absenteeism among POC, Multilingual Learners (MLLs), and high poverty schools
  - Students are much less prepared to meet grade-level proficiency in Reading and Math
- System challenge: How to support all students to accelerate learning?
Supplemental Support Strategies are Necessary but Not Sufficient for Systemic Progress

• A number of evidence-based, high leverage strategies were identified in several LEAP meetings:
  • Examples include: high dosage tutoring, summer programs, social and mental health services, continuous professional development, committed external partners, among others

• When adapting these strategies to RI context, implementation issues include:
  • fidelity of delivering services,
  • effectiveness in supporting MLLs and differently abled learners (DALs),
  • potential organizational fragmentation, and
  • intentionality in instructional alignment
  • Centering equity actions in core instructional strategies

• These issues call for stronger coordination, coherence, and unity of action between SEA and LEAs in four areas
1. Governance Commitment and Coordination

• Leverage commitment and strengthen coordination in our decentralized education governance system:
  • 64 LEAs
  • 39 Cities and Towns
  • Providence turnaround district: alignment of TAP and LEAP

• At the state level, strong commitment is needed from the governor, legislative leaders, and the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education.

• Governor Dan McKee suggests an additional coordinating entity, municipal departments of education: potentially key local role in LEAP implementation
2. Funding Focus on MLLs, DALs, and POC

• LEAP needs state and local funding commitment across multiple budgetary cycles:
  • FY2022 (summer and fall 2021 and spring 2022),
  • FY 2023 (summer and fall 2022 and spring 2023), and
  • FY 2024 (summer 2023)

• Make Federal Grants work for LEAP: RIDE conducts an immediate review, realign, and “braid” all federal eligible funds (including $10.95M GEER II and the anticipated GEER III stimulus fund) to support LEAP’s student-centered, equity-focused approach, especially for MLLs, DALs, and POC

• Monitor funding use in UCOA based on measurable LEAP action metrics

• Explore student-based-budgeting as a potential strategy to deliver LEAP action goals
3. Build Capacity for Implementation Fidelity with Equity

• Build on the organizational assets in the LEAP Task Force, RIDE can maintain a Cross-Unit collaborative entity that prioritizes the LEAP action goals for the next two years
  • Cross functional coordination on instructional effectiveness, operations, fiscal investment, assessment, and school leadership
  • Conduct interim and summary assessment on student progress to inform LEAP implementation

• RIDE guidance on standards and accountability for LEAs and schools, as well as their external service providers, on LEAP goals, especially the focus on MLLs, DALs, and POC
4. Activate Purposeful Community Engagement

• Actively engage MLL, DAL, and POC parents and communities: Greater representation in CABs (Community Advisory Boards) and School Improvement Teams on the implementation of the LEAP plan
• Build and expand partnership with community providers in delivering high impact strategies equitably with measurable outcomes
• Maintain transparency and regular public reporting on LEAP progress for purposeful and sustaining community engagement
Thank You!

• Questions and Comments are Welcome!