

**Leaving a Legacy:
Teacher Candidate Impact on
Professional Development Schools**

*Great Teachers for Our City
Schools National Summit
May 1, 2008*





Teacher Leaders for Tomorrow's Schools

Leadership for Equity in Urban & Diverse Communities

Partner School Mission

- Preparation of New Teachers
- Professional Development
- School/University Curriculum Renewal
- Inquiry directed at the improvement of practice



Enhanced Student Achievement



Current Partner Schools

26 Partner Schools

- 5 high schools
- 5 middle schools
- 12 Elementary Schools
- 3 K-8 Schools
- 1 K-12 School

6 Metro Area Districts

- Adams 12
- Adams 14
- Denver Public Schools
- Jeffco Public Schools
- Aurora Public Schools
- Mapleton Public Schools



Partner School Support Infrastructure

- **University Site Professor:** University faculty member who spends one day a week in the partner school.
- **Site Coordinator:** Master teacher or an instructional coach, that supports the partnership functions from the school's perspective.
- **Clinical Teachers:** Practicing teachers who mentor teacher candidates during internships.
- **Teacher Candidates:** 10-15 undergraduate & graduate level students who spend 12-18 months immersed in a series of 4-5 internships in the partner school
- Formation of a **Leadership Team** to oversee partner school functions (Principal, Site Coordinator, Site Professor, etc.)



Legacy Project

- A *service & leadership project* collaboratively designed by the teacher candidates in the partner school that will *make a significant difference in the lives of the students at the school*; in other words something that will leave a legacy behind even after they have graduated from the program
- Teacher candidates collaborate with school leaders and their site professor/site coordinator to plan, design, and carry out the project
- Connected to our conceptual framework of *Teacher as Leader* role
- **NEW THIS YEAR:** Mini-grants through AmeriCorp to support the projects and add a new dimension of leadership through grant writing



Sharing the Impact

- **Tania Hogan**, Site Coordinator, Goldrick Elementary
- **Donna Sobel**, Associate Professor in Special Education and Former Site Professor
- **Jody Polleck**, Assistant Professor in Literacy and Site Professor, Rishel Middle School
- **Lynn Knowles**, Site Coordinator, Rishel Middle School
- **Allison Looney**, Teacher Candidate, Rishel Middle School
- **MJ Lechner**, Site Professor, Thomson Elementary School