

Overview

- SB 14-124 repeals the School Leadership Academy Program and replaces it with the School Turnaround Leaders Development Program.
- The new program will provide grants for providers of high-quality turnaround leadership development programs and grants to school districts so they can develop school leaders.
- The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules to implement and administer the new program including criteria for identifying approved service providers, and creating grant application procedures.

Why is the Turnaround Leadership Development Program Needed?

- With 190 schools in Colorado in Priority Improvement or Turnaround, there is significant demand to train, nurture, and support school leaders who are uniquely equipped to lead and manage the complex challenges they face.
- There exist few leadership development programs nationally or in Colorado specifically designed to meet the needs of turnaround schools.
- This program will build the capacity of existing programs and help to seed new programs which will meet these challenges and demands.

Provider Grants

- CDE will issue a request for proposals (RFP) from leadership development program providers.
- CDE will recommend to the SBE best-in-practice turnaround leadership development practices – criteria and elements of the best programs.
- Eligible providers may apply for a one-time design grant create or expand the provider's turnaround leadership development program(s).
- Each provider will track the effectiveness of persons who complete the leadership program, and report findings to the CDE.

Participant Grants

- The SBE will award participant grants to one or more school districts, charter schools, or to the State Charter School Institute (CSI) for up to three years.
- Grantees are required to use funding to: identify and recruit practicing and aspiring school turnaround leaders; and subsidize the cost of school turnaround leaders and other support staff to participate in turnaround leadership development programs.

Next Steps

- The District and School Performance Unit will add one additional position to design, develop, implement, and manage the provider and participant grant programs.
- Both grants will be announced by December 2014.

The Colorado Department of Education

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