

WestEd Collaborative with LAUSD High School #16

Project Personnel

Total Award Amount \$ 100,000

Project Director

Name: Ron Leon
Title: Associate Professor
Department: Education

Co-Project Director

Name: Peggy Kelly
Title: Dean
Department: College of Education and Integrative Studies

Co-Project Director

Name:
Title:
Department:

Project Description

BACKGROUND

In the spring 2010, LAUSD requested proposals for Public Schools of Choice including the new Central Region High School #16 (HS16). Four separate proposals were submitted for four autonomous schools on the new site. Representatives from each group agreed to work collaboratively with WestEd as its lead partner. The proposals passed unanimously by the board. To accomplish the goal of turning around the educational experience for students at HS16, WestEd approached CPP's CEIS as a partner.

West Ed has been a leader in moving research into practice by conducting R&D programs, projects, and evaluations, providing training and technical assistance, and working with policymakers and practitioners at state and local levels. The agency has demonstrated success in turning around low-performing schools and districts at all grade levels with high numbers of English learners. These experiences make WestEd a valuable partner in improving student achievement. WestEd staff works within the culture and context of the school and district, emphasizing the school's assets and building on proven strategies to support student learning. CPP faculty will be able to work alongside WestEd researchers in this endeavor.

CPP-WESTED PARTNERSHIP

Leadership & School Culture Support – School leaders often complain that they do not have time to examine relevant research, engage in rich conversations with experts, or learn about and see innovative practices at other school sites. A key strategy is to ensure that principals, assist principals, counselors, and teacher leaders receive time and support to engage in these activities. Faculty in the CPP's Education Leadership Program will work with WestEd in providing this support. Faculty from CPP's EWS program will supporting building a culture of success and realizing the vision of the Social Justice Schools.

Placement of Student Teachers - Classroom teachers and their students' benefit by having teacher candidates in their classrooms. Student teachers can provide small group, 1-on-1 instruction, co-teaching and assist with planning and assessment of student work; they bring passion and fresh ideas about teaching and learning. Teacher candidates benefit from strong cooperating teachers – those who are models of excellent teaching and are good mentors.

Tutors/Mentors - Many of the high school students who will attend HS16 schools are not proficient in core academic areas. Many lack healthy relationships with multiple adults. A tutor/mentor program will be developed to provide support to students who are struggling personally or academically. Other departments and the Office of Service Learning can play a key role in matching CPP students with HS16 students.

Student Recruitment - The HS16 population is almost exclusively Latino and African American. The African American student population at CPP is below the regional and national average. This partnership holds promise for increasing the African American student population