

# REL Midwest Research to Action Forum

January 24–25, 2007

## Proposed Agenda

**Wednesday, January 24, 2007**

10:00 a.m.–5:30 p.m. **Registration**

12:00–1:30 p.m. **Opening Luncheon**

*Teacher Quality: International Lessons on the Power of Policy*

Presider: Steve Cantrell, Executive Director, REL Midwest

Speaker: Robert Schwartz: Academic Dean, Harvard Graduate School of Education

1:45–2:30 p.m. **State Working Session**

*Find out who is here from your state, get prepared for how to engage in the forum, and ensure distribution across the strand discussions.*

- **Illinois**
- **Indiana**
- **Iowa**
- **Michigan**
- **Minnesota**
- **Ohio**
- **Wisconsin**

2:45–3:45 p.m. **Concurrent Content Sessions**

**Strand One—Teacher Recruitment**

**Panel discussion among a researcher, policymaker, practitioner, and the audience**

*Getting more people to enter the field prepared to succeed as highly qualified teachers.*

**Strand Two—Teacher Assignment**

**Panel discussion among a researcher, policymaker, practitioner, and the audience**

*Challenges to ensuring an equitable distribution of highly qualified teachers.*

**Strand Three—Teacher Effectiveness**

**Panel discussion among a researcher, policymaker, practitioner, and the audience**

*Lessons learned about measuring teacher effectiveness.*

4:00–5:15 p.m.

### **Concurrent Content Break-Out Sessions**

#### **Strand One—Teacher Recruitment**

*Three small-group discussions on topics such as the effectiveness of recruitment strategies, bringing midcareer professionals into teaching, and lessons about targeting recruitment efforts.*

#### **Strand Two—Teacher Assignment**

*Three small-group discussions on topics such as the appropriate state role, ideas for staffing hard-to-staff schools and content areas, and the role of collective bargaining in supporting the equitable distribution of highly qualified teachers.*

#### **Strand Three—Teacher Effectiveness**

*Three small-group discussions on topics such as lessons from existing teacher pay-for-performance systems, noncompensation strategies to encourage effective teaching, and the promise and limitations of value-added assessment.*

6:00 p.m.

### **Reception and Dinner**

*Improving and Using Research on Education Policy and Teacher Quality*

## **Thursday, January 25, 2007**

9:00–10:00 a.m.

### **General Session**

*Improving State Policy and Practice*

Presider: Sabrina Laine, Director, National Comprehensive Center for Teacher Quality

Speakers: Chief State School Officers

10:15 a.m.–12:00 p.m. **Facilitated State Working Sessions**

*Applying the lessons learned in the first day of the forum to existing state policies and to recommend improvements and applied research.*

*Reviewing key components of state plans to ensure highly qualified and highly effective teachers are in every classroom; identifying gaps in goals and current policy; considering areas for potential improvement.*

*Using templates and rubrics to analyze current plans, policies and implementation strategies; determine gaps; and assess the quality of new ideas.*

- **Illinois**
- **Indiana**
- **Iowa**
- **Michigan**
- **Minnesota**
- **Ohio**
- **Wisconsin**

12:00–1:30 p.m.

**Closing Luncheon**

*Reviewing lessons learned and where we go from here.*

1:30 p.m.

**Forum Adjourns**