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University Preparation Program Redesign in Alabama



Grass Roots Vision

Governor's Congress on School
Leadership Convened - 2004

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Catalyst

Alabama Standards for
Instructional Leaders created
focus of redesign - 2005

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Structure

Key document:

Alabama Instructional
Leadership University Redesign
*Instructional Leadership for All
Alabama Schools*

(Based on new Standards)

2005-2006

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The Redesign

- University/K12 partnerships
 - Admissions
 - Course development
 - Course delivery
 - Requires a memorandum of agreement between university and district
- Embedded field experiences in every course (observe, participate, lead)



The Redesign

- Residency
 - Under the supervision of a trained mentor
 - Resident must lead significant instructional and managerial tasks
 - Plan for residency must be approved before placement
 - Minimum of ten consecutive days with students present



Due Diligence

Redesign timeline established
2006

All universities must have
approved programs by 2009 to
continue admitting students



Evaluation of Redesigned Programs

The evaluation process for redesigned programs was created through a joint effort of universities/SDE/consultants.

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Evaluation Protocol

- Submission of redesign supporting documents to SDE
- SDE review of redesign documents
 - Feedback
 - Clarification, changes, resubmission

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Evaluation Protocol

- Internal/external visiting team
 - Two in-state practitioners
 - Two out-of-state consultants
 - SDE employees facilitate only
- Pre-visit to all universities by SDE facilitators and visiting team chairperson (1/2 day)
- Visiting team previews supporting documents prior to a two-day campus visit
- Visiting team interviews key university faculty, K12 partners, university president and provost



Evaluation Protocol

- Visiting team delivers a verbal report at the end of the visit

- Three response categories
 1. Commendations - kudos
 2. Suggestions – not binding
 3. Recommendations- must be met before approval (standards-based)



Current Status

- Thirteen universities in Alabama have programs.
- All universities have had pre-visits.
- Three lead universities have been approved
- Ten universities are in the redesign process now and will be visited in Sept. Oct. Nov. 2008.
- No students are currently being admitted to the old program