Evaluating Teacher Effectiveness:  
A Workshop Connecting Research to Policy and Practice

April 28–29, 2009  
Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center

Preliminary Agenda

Tuesday, April 28

10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.  Workshop Check-in and Registration

12:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m.  Luncheon, Welcome, and Keynote Address

This session will provide an overview of the goals of the workshop, a summary of the teacher effectiveness focus and potential funding available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and an introduction to research and methods related to teacher evaluation.

Presenters: Chris Brandt, Ph.D., REL Midwest and Learning Point Associates; Paul Kimmelman, National Comprehensive Center for Teacher Quality and Learning Point Associates; Laura Goe, Ph.D., National Comprehensive Center for Teacher Quality and ETS; Sabrina Laine, Ph.D., National Comprehensive Center for Teacher Quality and Learning Point Associates

2:00 p.m.–2:15 p.m.  Break

2:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.  Working Session I: Roundtable Discussions on Teacher Effectiveness Definitions and Measures for States

The starting place for any quality evaluation system is a clear understanding of what is meant by teacher effectiveness. It not only provides focus but serves to inform the evaluation methods to be used. This session will provide participants with the opportunity to explore aspects of teacher effectiveness as a first step in the development of quality evaluation systems.

Facilitator: Tricia Coulter, Ph.D., National Comprehensive Center for Teacher Quality and Learning Point Associates

3:15 p.m.–3:30 p.m.  Break
3:30 p.m.–5:30 p.m.  Working Session II: Using Classroom Observation to Gauge Teacher Effectiveness

Classroom observation is one method used for teacher evaluation. This session will provide an overview and example of classroom observation methods and the opportunity to use a classroom observation tool to rate a teacher’s performance.

**Presenter:** Bridget Hamre, Ph.D., University of Virginia

**Facilitator:** Jane Coggshall, Ph.D., National Comprehensive Center for Teacher Quality and Learning Point Associates

5:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m.  Break

6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m.  Dinner and Panel Presentation: Teacher Evaluation Using Multiple Measures: The Denver Experience

Denver Public Schools has experience in creating and implementing a diversified compensation structure that utilizes new and multiple methods for evaluating teachers. They are now revisiting and revising their teacher evaluation system and will preview their actions, strategies, and experiences regarding this effort.

**Presenters:** Brad Jupp, Senior Academic Policy Advisor for Denver Public Schools; Shayne Spalten, Chief Human Resources Officer for Denver Public Schools

**Facilitator:** Sabrina Laine, Ph.D., National Comprehensive Center for Teacher Quality and Learning Point Associates

8:30 p.m.  Adjourn for the Day
Wednesday, April 29

8:00 a.m.–10:00 a.m.  Breakfast and Keynote Address: Teacher Effectiveness and Quantitative Methodology

As states move toward the creation and implementation of quality evaluation systems, they need to understand the research and science behind assessment. This session will provide an overview of assessment methods related to the use of quantitative data in teacher evaluation systems.

**Presenter:** Dan Goldhaber, Ph.D., University of Washington–Bothell and Center for Analysis of Longitudinal Data in Education Research (CALDER)

**Facilitator:** Paul Koehler, Southwest Regional Comprehensive Center and WestEd

10:00 a.m.–10:15 a.m.  Break

10:15 a.m.–12:00 p.m.  Working Session III: Determining Processes That Build Sustainable Teacher Accountability Systems

The TQ Center has asked Public Impact to conduct a study exploring the change processes in the creation and implementation of evaluation systems. This session will provide an overview of their findings thus far as they relate to the impetus for change and the political and policy context in which such change occurs.

**Presenter:** Lucy Steiner, Public Impact

**Facilitator:** Molly Lasagna, National Comprehensive Center for Teacher Quality and Learning Point Associates

12:00 p.m.–12:15 p.m.  Break

12:15 p.m.–2:30 p.m.  Luncheon and Panel Discussion: A State Perspective on Teacher Evaluation

States are at various stages of creating and implementing quality evaluation systems. This session will provide the opportunity for participants to hear the experiences of three states at varying stages in the process to learn from their examples.

**Presenters:** Kaneal G. Alexander, Tennessee State Department of Education; Carolyn McKinney, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (invited); Larry Shumway, Utah State Department of Education

**Facilitator:** Tricia Coulter, Ph.D., National Comprehensive Center for Teacher Quality and Learning Point Associates

2:30 p.m.  Wrap-Up and Adjourn