Welcome

Dear Participant,

Welcome to the National Center on Scaling Up Effective School’s first national conference, Achieving Success at Scale: Research on Effective High Schools, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education’s Institute of Education Sciences.

Improving our nation’s high schools and ensuring that all students graduate college and career ready has received renewed importance due to President Obama’s education policy reforms. NCSU’s purpose is twofold: identify practices that distinguish effective high schools and develop processes to scale up those practices within the contexts of specific districts. At this conference, our expert panelists will present new research on effective high schools, lessons learned from implementing and scaling up new practices, and measuring high school effectiveness. A special keynote address will feature Russell Rumberger, Vice Provost of the University of California, Santa Barbara, and author of Dropping Out: Why Students Drop Out of High School and What Can Be Done About It.

Thank you for joining us for this event. We hope the research, practice, and policy discussions will give you new perspectives on the bundles of practices that effective high schools use to achieve success for all students and the ways in which developers and practitioners support these improvement efforts.

Sincerely,

Thomas Smith
Director

Marisa Cannata, Lora Cohen-Vogel, and Cheryl King
Associate Directors

Acknowledgements

We are thankful to the following individuals and organizations for their part in making this event possible:

- Vanderbilt University’s Chancellor Nicholas S. Zeppos and the Office of the Chancellor, Dean Camilla Barklow and Peabody College, and Associate Professor Thomas M. Smith, for serving as hosts.
- The United States Department of Education’s Institute of Education Sciences for supporting the National Center on Scaling Up Effective Schools (Grant R305C100003).
- The institutional partners of the NCSU – Education Development Center, Inc., Florida State University, Georgia State University, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, The University of Wisconsin-Madison, and our partner school districts, Broward County Public Schools and Fort Worth Independent School District – for their exemplary research, design and practice in the world of educational improvement.
- Russ Rumberger, Leontine Butler, Michael Sorum, Robert Redusky, Adam Samaran and Ron Ferguson for bringing their expertise to the conference proceedings.
- The educational collaborative partners of the NCSU for providing the graduate student seminar.
- Marisa Cannata, Katherine Taylor Haynes, Tammy Eidson and other NCSU staff for handling the many details that make such an event possible.

Institutional Partners

Vanderbilt University’s Peabody College of Education and Human Development serves as the country’s top graduate school of education and is the home of the National Center on Scaling Up Effective Schools. Peabody’s reputation for rigor, creativity, and excellence is built on practice and scholarship by its highly regarded research faculty.

Florida State University’s College of Education has given students the resources and opportunities to become educational leaders with a positive and lasting ability to improve society for more than 150 years. The College has a number of distinguished faculty and nationally ranked programs, including those in educational leadership and education policy.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill’s School of Education is a community of scholars and practitioners who are deeply committed to educational opportunity for all. Home to some of the top scholars in the nation, UNC Faculty conduct rigorous and practice-oriented research through an array of research and intervention programs.

The Education Development Center, Inc. is a nonprofit international research and development organization dedicated to improving the quality, effectiveness, and equity of education. EDC includes educators, researchers, and curriculum developers who work in partnerships with educational communities to construct new educational tools, models, and solutions grounded in the daily realities of the classroom.

Housed in the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Wisconsin Center for Education Research is the Value-Added Research Center. VARC’s mission is to conduct research and develop policy and management analytics, particularly value-added and student growth metrics, to support reform and continuous improvement in American education.

Georgia State University’s Andrew Young School of Policy Studies is recognized as one of the top policy schools in the nation. It’s mission is to create and disseminate knowledge and analytical methods that are highly valued by policy makers and leaders in the public, nonprofit and business worlds.
Sunday, June 10, 2012

6:00 am Registration
6:30-8:00 am Welcome Reception (Skylight Foyer, Mezzanine Level)
Monday, June 11, 2012

7:00-7:30 am Continental Breakfast (Symphony II, Lobby Level)
8:00-1:15 am Welcome and Guiding Framework for NSCU (Symphony II, Lobby Level)
Camilla Barden, Dean, Peabody College of Education and Human Development, Vanderbilt University
Thomas M. Smith, Director National Center on Scaling Up Effective Schools, Vanderbilt University
8:30-10:15 am Panel 1: Effective High Schools: Insights from the National Center on Scaling Up Effective Schools (Symphony II, Level)
Chair: Marisa Cannata, NSCU, Vanderbilt University
Discussants
Conceptualizing Essential Components of Effective High Schools: Courtney Preston, Ellen Goldring, James E. Guthrie and Russell Reuben, Vanderbilt University
Systematic Use of Data in Schools: Evidence from the National Center on Scaling Up Effective Schools: Lora Cohen-Vogel and Christopher Harrison, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Differences in Instructional Quality between High and Low Value Added Schools: Thomas M. Smith, Katherine Taylor Haynes,5182
Michael Sonen, Fort Worth Independent School District
Robert Rodseh, Jefferson County Public Schools
Cheryl Kent: Education Development Center, Inc.

Moderator: 6:00 am

Continental Breakfast (Symphony II, Lobby Level)
9:00-9:15 am

Panel 2: Evaluations of High School Reform Models 1 (Symphony II)
Chair: Lita Osborne-Lampkin, Florida State University
Discussants
Separating Reform from Effectiveness: A Fairman Academy on Student Success: Clara G. Muschkin and Lara K. Bonneu, Duke University
Can High Schools Be Turned Around?: Impacts of State Turnaround on Student Achievement, Graduation, and Absentism: Gary T. Henry, Robert A. Rose and Shane L. Campbell, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
School Turnaround through Whole School Reform: Charles Thompson, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Discussants: 10:00-11:45 am

Panel 3: Evaluations of High School Reform Models 2 (Symphony II)
Chair: Katey Taylor Haynes, Vanderbilt University
Discussants
Understanding the Successes and Challenges of Implementing Effective Practices in High Schools: District Leader Perspectives on the Benefits of a Research Collaboration: Leanne Butler, Broward County Public Schools
Explaining Effectiveness: An In-Depth Exploration of Personalization for Academic and Social Learning: Stacey A. La’Tara Osborne-Lampkin

Discussants: 11:45-1:00 am

Panel 4: Evaluations of High School Reform Models 3 (Symphony II)
Chair: Joe Murphy, Vanderbilt University
Discussants
Taking Teacher Professional Development to Scale: A Case of Three Intermediaries: Barbara Schneider, Jennifer Steele, Joe Murphy, and Adam Gamoran, Vanderbilt University
Intermediary Organizations; Emily Klein, John F. Pane and Dahlia Lichter, RAND
Examining of Risks in Implementing Learner-Centered Comhants Gina Iatarola, New Leaders; Jennifer Steele, John F. Pane and Dahlia Lichter, RAND

Discussants: 1:00-2:00 pm

3:00-5:30 pm Continental Breakfast (Symphony III)
9:00-9:45 am

Panel 5: Scaling Up High School Reform Models (Symphony III)
Chair: Lora Cohen-Vogel, NSCU, Vanderbilt University at Chapel Hill
Discussants
Panel Member’s Profile in Scale: A Case of Three Intermediary Organizations: Emily Klein, Montclair State University
Effect on Student Learning, and Revs Jafar-Walter, The City of New York University

Discussants: 9:45-11:45 am

Closing Session: What Have We Learned?
Chair: Thomas M. Smith, Vanderbilt University
Discussants
Adam Garnier, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Mike Peterson, Harvard University
Alan Coverstone, Metro Nashville Public Schools
12:30-2:00 pm Lunch (Symphony III)