Professional Learning in the Learning Profession
Continuously Improving Our Use of Data

Nebraska Data Conference
April 14, 2014

Frederick Brown
Director of Strategy and Development
Learning Forward
First....

Let me offer my apologies!

I’m sorry.
Learning Forward Quick Facts

- Founded in 1969 as the National Staff Development Council
- 501 (c) 3 international membership association
- 10,000+ members comprised predominantly of central office staff, principals, teacher leaders, and TA providers
- Recognized as a national authority on issues related to professional development and school improvement
- Singularly focused on the role of professional learning to improve leadership, instruction, and student success
- Executive office in Dallas, Texas, and business office in Oxford, Ohio
- Affiliates throughout the United States and Canada.
Belief Statements

• Effective professional learning is fundamental to student learning.
• All educators have an obligation to improve their practice.
• More students achieve when educators assume collective responsibility for student learning.
• Successful leaders create and sustain a culture of learning.
• Improving student learning and professional practice requires ongoing systemic and organizational change.
Issues that concern us:

- Schools and districts need professional learning systems that result in scaled and sustained effective educator practice and improved results for students.

- District and building leaders need expertise and resources to create favorable conditions for teaching and learning (for both educators and students).

- States and provinces need policies and guidelines that support effective professional learning and do not incentivize ineffective practices.

- The field needs evidence that links effective professional learning to improved educator effectiveness and results for students.
Discussion Outcomes

• Considering the broader context
• Focusing in on the data standard
• Exploring four key questions
Discussion Outcomes

• Considering the broader context
• Focusing in on the data standard
• Exploring four key questions
Growth Opportunities & Supports

High Quality Instruction & Leadership

Educator & System Accountability

Professional Development Standards

Common Core State Standards for Students

Data Standards

Core Teaching Standards

School Leader Standards
Getting beyond the surface:
In my school or district, there is agreement on what students are expected to know and be able to do.
The #1 school-related factor that contributes to how well students do? The effectiveness of the classroom teacher.
Leaders help create the conditions for effective teaching and learning?
1. Standards-based professional learning

2. Improvements in educator knowledge, skills, and dispositions

3. Improvements in educator practice

4. Improvements in student results

Relationship between Professional Learning, Educator Effectiveness, & Student Results
Definition

Assessment and Evaluation

Vision

Roles and Responsibilities

Standards

Resources

Figure 1. Essential components of the comprehensive professional learning system
A tapestry of Standards for Professional Learning
A learning team at Ford Middle School...
A tapestry of Standards for Professional Learning

Learning Communities
Leadership
Resources
Data
Learning Designs
Implementatio
Outcomes
Organizations that contributed to the development of the professional learning standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AACTE</th>
<th>CCSSO</th>
<th>NGA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AASA</td>
<td>NASSP</td>
<td>MNSA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AASPA</td>
<td>NAESP</td>
<td>NSBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFT</td>
<td>NASBE</td>
<td>PTA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASCD</td>
<td>NBPTS</td>
<td>PDK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATE</td>
<td>NEA</td>
<td>USDOE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Standards for Professional Learning

Standards adoption or adaptation

[Map showing adoption or adaptation of standards in different states]
Discussion Outcomes

- Considering the broader context
- Focusing in on the data standard
- Exploring four key questions
Professional learning that increases educator effectiveness and results for all students uses a variety of sources and types of student, educator, and system data to plan, assess, and evaluate professional learning.
Data

CORE ELEMENTS:

• Analyze student, educator, and system data.
• Assess progress.
• Evaluate professional learning.
How is data defined in your school or district?
Discussion Outcomes

• Considering the broader context
• Focusing in on the data standard
• Exploring four key questions
The Cycle of Continuous Improvement

Aligns with your practice?

Aligns with practices in your district?
Nebraska Data Literacies

What do the data show?

Why might this be?

How should we respond?

Did our response produce results?
Three quick stories...
What do the data show?

Team members continuously collect, analyze, and apply learning from a range of data sources using multiple levels of analysis.
Why might this be?

Team members interpret and communicate data.
How should we respond?

The school system engages in a continuous process to determine verifiable improvement in student learning including readiness for and success at the next level.
Did our response produce results?

Team members evaluate, monitor, and communicate comprehensive information about student learning, school performance, and the achievement of system and school improvement goals to stakeholders.
Thank you!

Frederick Brown: Frederick.brown@learningforward.org

We’ll continue this conversation at...