

UNO Educational Leadership - *Personal Contribution to School Improvement*

This assessment takes place in Level 3 in the course, EDAD 6875-School Improvement. Candidates plan and implement an action research project based on student learning needs. This assessment emphasizes the unit themes of assessment, communication and diversity.

This is an individual project in which candidates use information from their executive summary for their school's improvement plan to negotiate with the principal an active role in improving student learning in your school. The goal is to use knowledge of the school improvement plan and the research on which it is founded to secure the formal approval of the principal to make a personal contribution to student learning and school improvement. The candidate will propose and implement an action research project to work with teachers in the school (grade level or other) to impact student learning. Based on student learning data and working with the principal, the candidate will select a focus area for improvement (language arts/literacy; math/numeric; science; social studies). The candidate will plan and execute an action research project that uses pre- and post-assessment data to impact student learning in the focus area and that involves the candidate in a leadership role with other teachers in the school.

The Personal Contribution to School Improvement project requires candidates to plan and conduct action research based on the student learning needs at a particular school site. Through an examination of the existing School Improvement Plan, the candidate will identify authentic, student learning needs based on data drawn from the SIP and propose an intervention plan to address the needs. The plan submitted articulates the school mission and vision and identifies the alignment of the proposed intervention plan to the school's mission and vision (1.2, 1.3; 1.4). The plan identifies school and student data to support the identified focus area (2.1) and articulates reasonable goals and objectives aligned with the identified needs (2.2). The plan stipulates the teaching strategies to be used in the intervention (2.3), the professional development planned for the teachers involved (2.4), and the community involvement (1.5). A plan for resources needed for the intervention is prepared and discussed with the principal (3.3). Both formative and summative evaluation should be used to assess the effectiveness of the plan and a final report is submitted with all documentation. Since this activity involves students, teachers, and parents, the candidate must also act with integrity, act fairly and ethically (5.1, 5.2, 5.3).

Directions to Candidates Personal Contribution to School Improvement

This is an individual project. You are to use your executive summary for your school improvement plan to negotiate with your principal an active role in improving student learning in your school. The goal is to use your knowledge of the school improvement plan and the research on which it is founded to secure the formal approval of your principal for you to make a personal contribution to student learning and school

improvement. You will propose and implement an action research project *to work with teachers in your school (grade level or other) to impact student learning.*

Based on student learning data and working with your principal, select a focus area for improvement (language arts/literacy; math/numeric; science; social studies). Plan and execute an action research project that uses pre- and post-assessment **data to impact student learning in your focus area and that involves you in a leadership role with other teachers in your school.**

The following components should be addressed in your improvement plan.

- Provide a brief introduction which identifies your principal, the school name, its mission and vision; area of focus and project name.
- Identify and graphically present student and/or school data that supports the selected improvement focus area. Explain how your project will promote a positive school culture and is aligned with the school's mission and vision. (ELCC 1.2; 1.3;1.4; 2.1)
- Identify and describe the proposed intervention plan/program. (ELCC 2.2; 2.3)
 - Identify specific student data that will be impacted by this project.
 - What are your goals and objectives?
 - Describe teaching strategies/research-based strategies proposed.
 - Explain your role in the program and the involvement of school personnel.
 - Identify professional development components of the program. (ELCC 2.4)
 - Explain community involvement in the development/implementation of your plan. (ELCC 1.5; 4.1)
 - Explain provisions for needed materials and supplies. (ELCC 3.3)
- Create An Action Plan that details the following
 - Expected Impact (observable change in student learning in the focus area)
 - Activities for teachers to impact student learning in focus area.
 - Timeline
 - Persons Responsible
 - Target Audience
 - Procedures for Evaluating Implementation & effectiveness of each activity
- Submit a final report and documentation of all activities.