

Abstract

University of Wisconsin Milwaukee/Milwaukee Public Schools Asset-Based Cultural Competence Ensuring Student Success (ACCESS)

In a partnership between the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) and the Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS), Professional Development Partnership Schools (PDPS) focused on culturally relevant pedagogy (CRP), called Culturally Relevant Practice Centers, will be developed under Absolute Priority 1: Supporting Effective Teachers and CPP 1: Promoting Diversity in the Educator Workforce. This partnership will focus on aligning theory to practice and collect and report on the data necessary to support a replicable research/data-driven model for effective PDPSs in CRP. Focusing on the professional development of experienced teachers in CRP, recruiting new teachers through support staff, and providing clinical placements for UWM teacher candidates that connect field placements to its programs, its school district and its community, this project's goals include: 1) Aligning university programs and personnel in support of a common understanding of CRP, 2) Developing 12 Milwaukee Public Schools into Culturally Sustaining Practice Centers (CSPCs) that comprehensively utilize inclusive and responsive pedagogy and practice to improve student achievement and equity, and 3) Utilizing CSPCs to recruit, develop and retain teachers that effectively meet the needs of culturally, economically, racially, and linguistically diverse learners. This project will add to the research on school-wide CRP initiatives, the effects on student achievement, the learning of teacher candidate learning, and the retention of teachers in high-poverty, high-need urban schools.

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