This application is submitted on behalf of a partnership between the eight LEAs of Metropolitan School District of Decatur Township (Decatur, IN), Colonial School District (New Castle, DE), Gainesville Independent School District (Gainesville, TX), Marion County School District (Marion, SC), Rio Grande City Consolidated Independent School District (Rio Grande City, TX), Roanoke City Public Schools (Roanoke, VA), Pike County Schools (Zebulon, GA), and School District of the City of York (York, PA). The application addresses Competitive Preference Priorities 1 and 2.

E3+ has the potential to make a broad and significant impact as it will reach 91 schools (78 high-need schools), 242 principals, 3,978 teachers, and 57,037 students. E3+ provides the opportunity to collaborate in a Networked Improvement Community (NIC) context, focusing on critical interventions impacting student achievement. LEAs will learn from one another by engaging in professional learning, sharing resources, and giving and receiving feedback with the goal of supporting educators’ professional growth and increasing educator diversity. E3+ takes a comprehensive and systems-level approach as interventions target every level of the system – Community, District, School, and Classroom.

The E3+ project objectives are: 1) improve student achievement; 2) improve the recruitment, retention, and promotion of educators of color; 3) support educator growth through high-quality professional development to increase teacher and school leader effectiveness while also providing opportunities for career advancement; 4) continual expansion of the NIC to strengthen the capacity of existing and future member districts; 5) evaluate each project activity against student achievement and cost; and 6) create sustainable systems of constant improvement for each of the previous five objectives. Together, these objectives will enhance the likelihood of sustainability over time.