Center for Research and Evaluation Overview

Board of Education Report
June 26, 2012
• The Center for Research and Evaluation (CRE) was created summer of 2007
• Largely responsible for carrying out Policy Code IL
• Provides results that inform the continuation, termination, or modification of programs, initiatives, or policies to ensure a quality education
• Ultimate goal is to positively impact the achievement of all CMS students through the appropriate use of research and evaluation

Overview
Board of Education Policy Code IL (2009): Research and Evaluation

1. Research and Evaluation
   A. General parameters

   The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education believes that all programs, initiatives and products ("programs") in place within the school district should contribute to the mission of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools: to maximize academic achievement by every student in every school. Therefore, the Superintendent shall ensure that the administration develops and maintains the ability to conduct expert and reliable research and evaluation of selected programs, including programs already in place in the district as well as those proposed for purchase.

Governance
• CRE’s budget funds three full time employee positions
  – One full-time director
  – Two full-time senior analysts

• Additional Information
  – One full-time analyst for Race-to-the-Top
  – Two part-time contractors
  – All current full-time staff members have, or are pursuing, a PhD

Budget
Goals

**What We Do**

- Provide accurate and timely evaluation and research results to CMS decision makers.

**How We Do It**

- Partnerships
- Data Analyses
- Evaluation Processes
- Peer-reviewed Literature
- Quality Control

**Intermediate Goals**

- Data-Informed Policy Decisions
- Implement Effective Programs
- Budgetary Decisions
- Targeted Professional Development

**Long-Term Goal**

Increased Student Achievement
• ISO 9001 processes and certification in 2011 – 2012

• Project management process implemented in 2008 - 2009

• Quality control processes implemented in 2009 - 2010

Process Accomplishments
• Does Grade Retention Make a Difference?
• A Preliminary Analysis of a Strategic Staffing Initiative
• Relationship Between Second Grade Oral Reading Fluency and Third Grade Reading
• An Analysis of Teacher Absence and Student Achievement

Publications
• Evaluations as mandated by the superintendent’s cabinet
• Outside research requests
• Literature reviews
• Data requests
• Annual surveys
• Collaborations with outside partners

Major Initiatives
2011-2012 Evaluation Reports

• Completed
  – Data Wise
  – K-3 Intensive Reading
  – Small Schools Final Report
• In Progress
  – Pre-K – 8
  – Post Secondary Success Feasibility
  – Risk Factor Scorecard
  – Math Forward
  – Bright Beginnings (contracted)
  – The New Teacher Project (working with TNTP staff)

2011-2012 Evaluation Reports
Outside Research

- Application and fee (if applicable)
- Institutional Review Board approval
- Proposal reviewed by panel
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- Process approximately 100 applications per year
• Data Requests
  – New Leaders (RAND)
  – Mathematica/Optimal Solutions Group
  – Mathematica/Branch Associates
  – The New Teachers Project
  – Communities In Schools
  – YMCA
  – A Child’s Place
  – No Easy Walk
  – Schools and internal offices

Data Request Examples
• Teacher
• Student
• Parent
• Principal

Annual Surveys
• Institute for Social Capital

• University Partners
  – Harvard
  – Queens
  – UNC Charlotte
  – University of South Carolina

• Non-Profit Organizations
  – Teach For America
  – The New Teacher Project
  – New Leaders
  – A Child’s Place
  – Citizen Schools
  – Communities In Schools

Partnerships
• Results used in decisions
  – Principal survey impacts departmental policies reflecting desires for improved customer service and for identifying areas in need of improvement
  – Student, parent and/or teacher surveys impact school improvement plans, staffing decisions, etc.
  – Data Wise coaches assigned to zones

Results
• Continue to provide accurate, available, and applicable data to our stakeholders

• Devise innovative ways to expand our services

• Improve onboarding of new team members

Next Steps
Questions