

# NEW STANDARDS FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERS




# Why Is Effective Leadership Essential?



Evidence links it to student performance

Second only to teaching among school-related factors contributing to student achievement

No documented instances of failing schools turning around without powerful leadership



# What Are Leadership Standards?

**...detail skills and knowledge** effective district and school leaders need to influence teaching and student learning

**...clarify expectations** for education leaders, ensuring they get the support they need

## Leadership Standards...

**...guide** preparation, practice, support and evaluations for district and school leaders

**...are voluntary;** states adapt them to local needs

# Why Are Standards Being Refreshed?

1

Responsibilities of principals and superintendents have changed since the last update in 2008

2

Up-to-date standards ensure that leaders get the support they need

3

New research demonstrates the value of new functions such as managing change and school cultures

4

Policy reforms emphasize principal effectiveness

# Standards Being Refreshed

## Educational Leader Professional Standards (formerly ISLLC)

Standards for  
practicing district and  
school leaders

## National Educational Leadership Preparation Standards (NELP)\*

Standards for preparation  
of aspiring school and  
district leaders and  
accreditation of leadership  
preparation programs

\* NELP was first developed by the  
Educational Leadership  
Constituent Council (ELCC)

# What Do the New Standards Accomplish?



The standards ensure leaders are better able to improve student achievement and meet new, higher expectations. They reflect evidence and experience gained since the last update of the standards in 2008.

# What Do the Refreshed Standards Cover?

Critical functions for educational leaders, such as:

- Supporting teaching and learning
- Advancing equity
- Ethics
- Developing professional capacity
- Managing school change
- Managing operations and resources
- Turning around schools





# Who is Involved in the Refresh?

## Organizational Leadership

- The Council of Chief State School Officers
- The National Policy Board for Educational Administration

## Professional Contributions

- Six committees of national experts provided research, field knowledge and initial drafts
- A 13-member working group of researchers and practitioners finalized the standards
- Input from more than 1,000 principals and superintendents

## Funder Support

- The Wallace Foundation, a national philanthropy working to improve education leadership



# What Is the Timeline?



**November 23, 2015:**

Refreshed educational leader standards released

**2016:**

Resources to support implementation completed



## To Learn More



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