CONETWORK Comprehensive Center Network REGION 11 Nebraska North Dakota

South Dakota Wyoming

## **About the R11CC**

The Region 11 Comprehensive Center (R11CC) serves the states of Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming, collaborating with state and regional education agencies to provide high-quality, intensive capacity-building services using strategies rooted in research.

## North Dakota

## Accomplishing Effective and Durable Change to Reduce Student Achievement Gaps in North Dakota Schools

**Need:** The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI) offers two levels of extra support to schools identified by the state as in need of improvement: Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) and Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI). Previous reform efforts to support these schools revealed that educators and leaders need more knowledge and resources in order to successfully enact and sustain these renewal efforts. To address this, the R11CC is partnering with NDDPI, the state's Regional Education Association (REA), and local school and district teams to work together to increase educators' understanding and consistent use of evidence-based practices for school improvement in TSI and CSI schools and/or districts.

**How we're helping:** The R11CC is helping our partners monitor the use of evidence-based practices more systemically by establishing a statewide data collection and inquiry process. This statewide asset will help educators gain a shared understanding of what systems and practices need improvement to increase academic achievement outcomes for every student. During Year 4, we supported NDDPI's work to complete and implement a statewide school renewal program promoting systems change in all TSI and CSI schools. We also worked with the REA to support the schools with improvement science tools and methods that promoted widespread, reliable use of evidence-based practices.

This year, we're working to:

- > Develop an online knowledge management system to host resources.
- > Refine and disseminate the North Dakota School Renewal Guide version 3.0.
- Further develop and refine a measurement plan to support continuous improvement of the North Dakota School Renewal statewide technical assistance process.

**What we plan to accomplish:** This five-year project focuses primarily on understanding how to make evidence-based practices work reliably to support continuous improvement in TSI and CSI schools. By creating a knowledge management hub to share resources, it is our goal for schools to meet their targets for growth, improvement, and reduction in nonproficiency for students.

**How we're building sustainability:** By end of R11CC's current contract cycle in September 2024, we will have spread the use of improvement science to schools and districts statewide, building the capacity of local educators and school leaders to address multiple problems of practice when implementing school improvement initiatives. Our efforts will also elevate, promote, and scale up the use of evidence-based practices, supported by the *North Dakota School Renewal Guide* and the REA school renewal coaching system, which will be updated systematically.

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## To learn more, please contact R11CC co directors: Joe Simpson at jsimpson@mcrel.org (307.222.5261) or Susan Shebby at sshebby@mcrel.org (303.632.5613).

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