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.

Nebraska

Developing Systems to Improve Outcomes for Students in Schools Receiving Targeted Support

Need: In 2019, the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) identified 363 schools that qualify for one of two levels of extra assistance (known as Targeted Support and Improvement [TSI] and Additional Targeted Support and Improvement [ATSI]) based on achievement gaps for identified student groups. In 100 of the identified schools, the focus is on raising achievement of students who are multilingual learners. With this project, the R11CC aims to identify barriers to student learning and help students and their teachers overcome those challenges with evidence-based solutions that can be piloted and then scaled.

How we're helping: The R11CC is teaming with NDE and Educational Service Unit #3, one of 17 regional agencies across the state that support school districts, to increase the capacity of staff in a pilot school—Birchcrest Elementary in the Bellevue School District—to better support their multilingual learners. Last year, we supported the development of logic models and resources, data collection, and the selection of evidence-based practices to better assist multilingual learners.

This year, in addition to continuing to support educators at Birchcrest Elementary as they implement their selected instructional practices, we'll work to:

➢ Explore the possibility of expanding the pilot model to two school districts in more rural areas.
➢ Develop webinars with the NeMTSS Coherence Project describing implementation of four priority considerations for high-quality Tier 1 instruction that supports multilingual learners.
➢ Pilot the webinars and written guidance with educational service units (ESUs) across the state, gather feedback, and make revisions.

What we plan to accomplish: Because we're working with state-level experts, we believe the knowledge we gain from the pilot schools can be used to create a scalable model that can benefit every TSI and ATSI school in Nebraska.

How we're building sustainability: By the time we exit this project in late 2024, we intend to create a replicable system for improvement that can be used statewide to support the performance of multilingual learners. Because our approach is centered on capacity-building, such a system will involve helping the state's educators become great classroom teachers and instructional leaders who are experts at working with evidence to identify and solve problems.

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