# Diversification of the Educator Workforce



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As one of 19 federally funded centers, the Wisconsin-Minnesota Comprehensive Center - Region 10 (WMCC10) provides high quality and intensive capacity-building services to the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI), as well as local education agencies and organizations.

It is operated by three organizations: the University of Minnesota's Center for Applied Research and Educational Improvement (CAREI), the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Wisconsin Evaluation Collaborative (WEC), and Education Analytics (EA).

The three regionally-based organizations operating the WMCC10 add unique value to these capacity building services through their cross-state collaboration.



## Our Time Together

- Overview of the forthcoming toolkit
  - Rationale for diversification of the workforce
  - How we developed the toolkit
  - Theory of action
  - Research insights
  - Strategies for diversifying the workforce
- Discussion of your current efforts



## Historical context: Brown v. Board

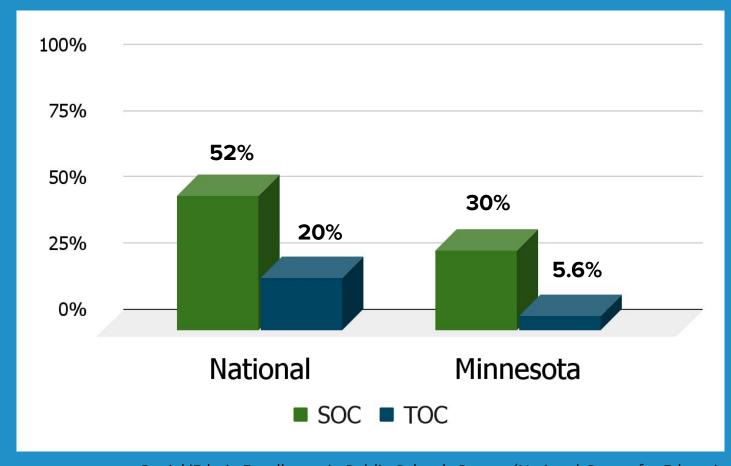
- Desegregation of schools led to the forced exodus of 38,000 Teachers of Color. 1
- Nearly 90% of school Leaders of Color, in 13 southern and neighboring states were also forced from their jobs. 2





<sup>2.</sup> Tillman, L. C. (2004). (Un)Intended Consequences?: The Impact of the Brown v. Board of Education Decision on the Employment Status of Black Educators. Education and Urban Society, 36(3), 280–303.

## Racial demographics of students and teachers today





## Why diversify the educator workforce?

#### **Teachers of Color:**

- serve as role model for all students
- have higher expectations for students of color, which lead to improved academic outcomes for marginalized populations
- provide a unique empathy and connection of experience in and outside of the school building with students of color
- tend to both work in harder to staff schools and tend to stay longer than their white counterparts
- are inclined to include culturally responsive pedagogies into everyday classrooms



## How we developed the toolkit

- 1. Review of the literature
- 2. Analysis of applications for the Minnesota Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board's (PELSB) Teacher Mentorship and Retention Grant
  - a. 50 applications from 2020 and 2021
- 3. Statewide survey of Minnesota Superintendents and Charter School Leaders
  - a. 60 responses from 59 sites (districts or charter schools)
- 4. Interviews with education organization leaders, superintendents, human resource personnel, and teachers
  - a. 20 interviewees from 11 different districts and 2 education organizations
- 5. Follow up with leaders of innovative diversification strategies





#### THEORY OF ACTION FOR DIVERSIFYING THE EDUCATOR WORKFORCE

#### **CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP**

- Vision of Culturally Responsive, Humanizing, and Affirming Schools
- Critical Self-Reflection on Leadership Behaviors
- Development of Culturally Responsive Teachers
- Promotion of a Culturally Responsive/Inclusive School Environment
- Engagement with Students, Parents, and Community Members

#### **CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- Historical Contextualization and Discussion of Race
- Educator Classroom Autonomy
- Administrative Support and Trust
- Educator Influence in Organizational Decision Making
- Collegial Trust
- **Community Representation** among Staff
- Community Value-Informed Climate and Operations
- Affinity Groups and Mentorship Programs

#### RECRUITMENT STRATEGIES

- · Financial Incentives (e.g., signing bonuses, loan forgiveness)
- · Grow Your Own
- · Teacher Residency
- · Preferential Placement
- · TOCAIT\* Engaged in Hiring Process
- · Seek Candidates from HBCUs, HSIs, TCUs\*

#### RETENTION STRATEGIES

- Financial support (e.g., longevity incentive, choice in PD)
- · Affinity Mentorship Programs
- · Collegial Affinity Groups
- · Eliminate policies that impact retention (e.g., LIFO)
- Partnership with Equity Organizations
   TOCAIT Included in System Decision Making





## Leadership Questions

What, if anything, about the way people are leading today need to <u>change</u> in order for leaders to <u>be</u> <u>successful</u> in a complex, rapidly changing environment where we're faced with seemingly intractable challenges and an insatiable demand for innovation?

Can you <u>break down</u> the <u>specific skills</u> that you believe underpin brave leadership?



## Leadership Answers

We need braver leaders and more courageous cultures.

You have it or you don't.



## Research Insights - Briefs



#### **DIVERSIFYING MINNESOTA'S EDUCATOR WORKFORCE: A SERIES OF RESEARCH BRIEFS**

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letaining Teachers of Color vidence-Based Best Practices....



Leaders across the state of Minnesota and nation proclaim to diversify the educator workforce. However, the reality nation less than 20% of teachers who teach a student population that 51% students of color are teachers of color (Ingersoll et al., 20 follows are a number of research briefs organized around a th action for diversifying the educator workforce. These briefs a to help leaders at the local, state, and national levels not only necessity, the 'Why', of diversifying the educator workforce, begin to gain a better understanding of the 'How'.

The theory of action for diversifying the educator workforce here begins with leadership. In order for educators of color to successfully recruited and retained into our schools, we must Khalifa (2018) describes as Culturally Responsive School Lead School and system leaders must be able to set a vision for cul responsive, humanizing and affirming schools for all student but especially for those who have been mirnoritized by educa systems in the past, Culturally responsive school leaders are critically self-reflect, develop culturally responsive teachers, culturally responsive environments and engage students, farr community in the schooling in authentic ways. It is these lea attributes that allow a culturally responsive leader to create a responsive work environment essential to the potential succe recruitment and retention strategies school systems attempt A culturally responsive work environment historically contex discussions of race, affords educators autonomy and administ support and trust, and provides genuine opportunities for edu color to be part of organizational decision making. If and wh responsive school leadership has established a culturally resp environment, systems can truly engage in research based and recruitment and retention strategies aimed at getting, develo retaining teachers of color.

Each of the components of this theory of action is supported brief that overviews the literature and evidenced based practi way of contextualizing the 'Why of this work, it is suggested understanding of the current context or trends in the state of in the US and Minnesota may be helpful. This brief, titled Tre State of Teaching in the United States and Minnesota, draws work of Richard Ingersoll and his colleagues at the Penn Grac of Education who have been studying the teacher workforce f

years. Additionally the work of Villegas and Irvine's (2010) overview of decades of empirical research on efforts to diversify the teaching force is discussed along with the most recent data from Minnesota's biennial teacher supply and demand report.

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#### TRENDS IN THE STATE OF TEACHING IN THE UNITED STATES AND MINNESOTA

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The Current State

creating smaller cl needing to fill spec etc.).

More Female Ingersoll also notes much of the teachir teachers, the field of the high school lew

Though the overall findings—as Ingers so's to 2016—there

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#### **CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE SCHOOL LEADE** A REVIEW OF THE RESEARCH

Victor Coy Carter Jr.

In response to the killing of George Floyd, Breonna Ta victims by law enforcement and the growing, glaring by the COVID-19 pandemic, education leaders are sear disavow white supremacy, decenter whiteness in educ the entrenched generational wrongs that persist and t disparately impacting students who are Black Indigen Color (BIPOC). They are working to dismantle practice

anogumen in the long history of schooling, BIPOC students have been at the center of teaching and education. In Intal-Immensature the Meritemient schooling and education. In Intal-Immensature the Meritemient schooling and the Company of the Compa

Minnesota ranks near the bottom of all U.S. states in achievement gaps between students of color and whip The Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis penned The Minnesota's Education Achievement Gap, which revealed

Minnesota also has a history of disproportionate discipline practices

Minneson also has a history of disproportionant elicipline practices towards Black and brown students. The Atlandal Center for Education Research indicates that from ann-14, approximately 2, 6 million public school students, or 39 of the public-viewed one of subset students, or 39 of the public-viewed one of subset students, or 39 of the public-viewed one of superior students of the subset o

- Tyack, D. B. (1974). The one best system: A bistory of American urban education (Vol. 95). Harvard University Press. 249.

  Garcia, D., Yosso, T., & Barajas, F. (2012). "A few of the brightest, deanest Mexican Children". School serewards as a form of mundane racium to Oxnaed. California. 100

AFFECT TEACHERS OF COLOR?

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According to the 2019 Biannual Teacher Supply and Demand Report, approximately 25% of teachers in Minnesota left the teaching profes

**HOW DO WORK ENVIRONMENT CONDITIONS** 

#### RECRUITING TEACHERS OF COLOR: **EVIDENCE-BASED BEST PRACTICES**

lictor Cov Carter Jr.

Nationally, teachers of color re teaching workforce; in Minnes This poses many negative effe population of our public K-12 : classroom provides necessary i be contributed by the predomi leadership of traditional K-12 (

- · They are inclined to include
- everyday classrooms. They have higher expectat They provide a unique en outside of the school buil

Furthermore, the research ind students of color, but also the and learning through a differe by offering curriculum from di importance of teachers of color recruit more of them?

Teachers of color are generally

- Financial incentives su forgiveness programs t
- 3. State-supported recruits of color through pre-col
- 4. District recruitment cer opportunities for profes 5. Alternative certification

What does the research say is

Federal Contribution to Recruitm

- Villegas, Ana Maria, & Irvine, J. J. (



#### **RETAINING TEACHERS OF COLOR: EVIDENCE-BASED BEST PRACTICES**

Victor Cov Carter Ir.

The vast majority of Black and brown leaders and teachers were pushed out of schools following Brown v. Seard and the push for classroom deseggegation. The notion of having Black and brown educators in Classroom instructing white children was unsetting for many white classroom instructing where children was unsetting for many white classroom instructing the properties of the control of the classroom instruction of the classroom in the classroom The yest majority of Black and brown leaders and teachers were nuched

Today limited protections and flawed practices result in similar outcomes in schools for technes of color. High-provety schools that serves Black and brown nucleus were closed under NCLS legislation removing teachers of colors and the nucleus of the colors of the colo Today limited protections and flawed practices result in similar outcomes

In addition to providing context, this brief presents ways tha In addition to providing context, this brief presents ways that practitioners and leaders can successfully keep teachers of color in the classroom. Contra dist," Associate Professor of Teaching and Toscher Hughes human resources conceptual model — "Illustrating the need to attend to human investments with the same urgency as technological attends to human investments with the same urgency as technological that frame the research in this bloth (i) location, (i) use, (j) maintenance, (4) modification, and (5) time. Each section provides research-driven recommendations collected and/or proposed by Gist and other scholars.

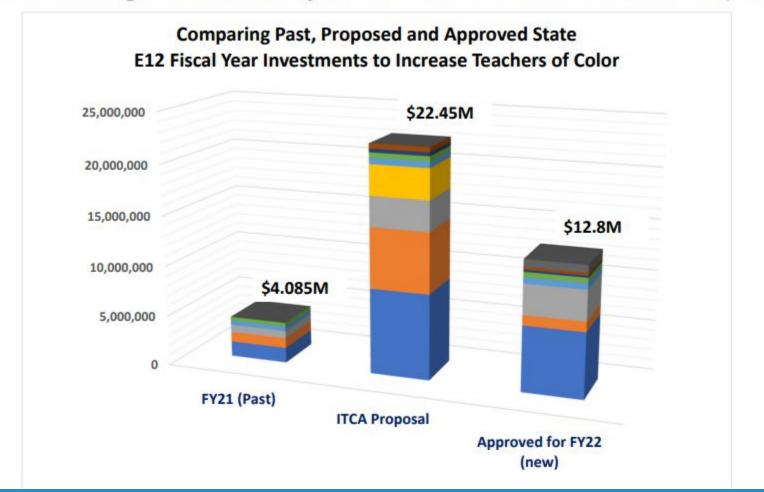
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## **Current Minnesota Funding**

Results of Legislative Advocacy for the Increase Teachers of Color Act (ITCA)



- GYO

   Mentorship & Retention

   American Indian Teacher Preparation

   Come Teach in MN bonuses

   Black Men Teach
- Equitable School Enhancement Grants

  "Intro to Teaching" Concurrent Enrollment

   Teacher Recruitment Marketing Campaigns

TOCAIT Group <a href="https://www.tocaimn.com">https://www.tocaimn.com</a>

CUGMEC

 Overview of Funding Sources

## Strategies

- 1. Contract changes
- 2. Grow your own
- 3. Financial incentives
- 4. Affinity groups and mentoring
- 5. Alternative Licensure



## **Contract Changes**

Collective bargaining agreement changes and/or MOUs that protect the recruitment and retention of TOC

#### Problem:

LIFO/ULA - TOC tend to be last hired and subsequently the first to go due to local
contract language, not state statute, as that language was repealed in 2017.

#### **Solutions**:

- Carve out language
  - Retaining teachers to ensure students have "access to effective teachers who are members of populations underrepresented among the licensed teachers in the district or school and who reflect the diversity of enrolled students." (Education Minnesota)
- Credit for years of service
  - Providing credit for years of service on the seniority schedule to candidates who have served as paraprofessionals. (Osseo Public Schools)



## Paraprofessional Seniority Credit Osseo

OSSEO AREA SCHOOLS
ISD © 279

Newly transitioned paraprofessionals are provided <u>up to two years of</u> <u>seniority credit</u> on the teacher contract as acknowledgement of their time as a paraprofessional.

- Eligibility for both Grow Your Own program or traditional certification paraprofessionals
- No interference with tenure laws
  - these teachers remain untenured until the traditional three year period has passed and the teacher is awarded a fourth contract
- Alleviates TOC being the first to go with budget cuts



## Ed MN Recommended Contract Language

1. Unrequested leave of absence

#### Optional: carve-out protections

Subd. 2. <u>Additional exceptions:</u> Notwithstanding the provisions above, if the placing of any teacher on unrequested leave before another teacher would (*insert carve-out language here*) the district may retain the teacher, even if the retained teacher is a Tier 1-licensed, Tier 2-licensed, or probationary teacher, or the teacher with less seniority.

#### Possible additional carve-outs

- Prevent students from having access to effective teachers who are members of populations underrepresented among the licensed teachers in the district or school and who reflect the diversity of enrolled students.
- Place a teacher without a certificate to teach Montessori into a Montessori setting (or an immersion program, heritage language literacy programs, Gifted and Talented programs)
- Require reassignment of specific Teachers on Special Assignment (TOSA) such as peer reviewers and lead teachers

#### 2. Seniority

#### Optional: Teachers enrolled in a Grow Your Own Program

Beginning with the 20\_\_ school year, employees working in other School District employment groups who secure a teaching contract within this bargaining unit will have their seniority date back-dated to their original hire date in the bargaining unit plus a maximum of two years in a previous bargaining unit upon completion of probation provided there has been no separation of employment between the prior position and the teaching assignment.



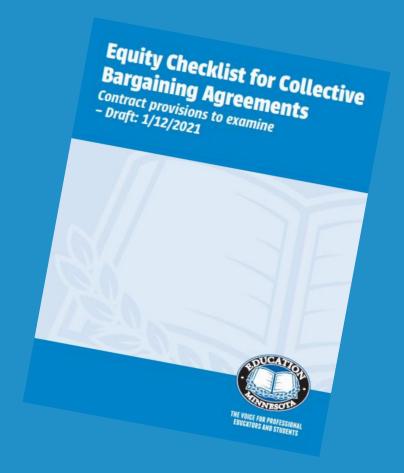
## Ed MN Collaboration with your locals

Education Minnesota is focused on this work, they are in the process of creating a Toolkit of sorts for their local associations.

Available at:

https://www.educationminnesota.org/members-only/bargaining/guidance/

(https://educationminnesota.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/EquityChecklistforCBAs.pdf)





## Grow Your Own

This popularized method addresses increasing TOC in the classroom in three ways:

- Middle school/high school career exploration programs
- Traditional teaching certification
- · Alternative Licensure (Paraprofessional/community model)

#### **Problems**

1. Certification exams and teacher quality metrics

#### **Solutions**

1. Test preparation and exam stipends

2. Economic barriers



2. Scholarships and loan forgiveness

## Apprentice Teachers Spring Lake Park



- Teacher education students hired as "Apprentice Teachers"
- Considered part of their "practicum hours"
- They develop and deliver lessons with teacher approval to students during grade-level PLC time
- They participate in a PLC as well for their own development and receiving coaching
- Paid slightly more than paraprofessionals (\$25 -\$30) and receive benefits similar to a paraprofessional
- Step placement or apply dollars to student loans



## Pathway to Leadership

## Anoka Hennepin Minneapolis





- Anoka-Hennepin: Educators of color who have an interest in obtaining an administrative license are put into a year-long "administrative intern" position while they are taking licensure courses.
  - District did not pay tuition, though potentially professional development dollars could be used to help support this.
- Minneapolis Public Schools: "Grow your Own" Educators were provided a year-long internship, similar to A-H, though they received their coursework one day a week during the day from U of M, and it was paid for by a grant.



## **Financial Incentives**

Financial incentives for teachers is one way to address the increased rate of teacher attrition, especially in hard-to-staff and under-resourced schools. Currently, most financial incentives rely on teacher educational attainment and tenure.<sup>1</sup>

#### **Problems**

- 1. Bias in incentive metric for traditional degree teachers
- 2. TOC incur more student loan/educational expense debt than their white peers<sup>2</sup>

#### **Solutions**

- 1. Adjustic metric to acknowledge performance, time employed in under-resources/underserved school<sup>3</sup>
- 2. Student loan forgiveness, housing stipends, childcare stipends, and other monetary incentives that decrease the financial burden of teaching on TOC

<sup>3.</sup> Gist, C. D. (2018). Human Resource Development for Racial/Ethnic Diversity: Do School Systems Value Teachers of Color? Advances in Developing Human Resources, 20(3), 345–358.



<sup>1.</sup> Dee, T., & Wyckoff, J. (2015). Incentives, Selection, and Teacher Performance: Evidence from IMPACT. Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, 34(2), 267-297.

<sup>2.</sup> Scott-Clayton, J. & Li, J. (2016). Black-white disparity in student loan debt more than triples after graduation. Brookings Report

## California Teacher Housing

#### The Teacher Housing Act of 2016

Allows school districts to provide affordable housing specifically for district employees and their families. The previous law required that homes or apartments be open to anyone who meets the low-income requirement if they used state and federal low-income housing funds or tax credits.

#### **Assembly Bill 1157**

Gov. Jerry Brown in 2017, exempts school districts from some of the usual requirements related to the sale or lease of property if it will be used for employee housing.



## **Affinity Groups/Mentoring**

Affinity groups are meetings (within or across districts) where people of the same social identity gather to discuss similar personal and professional experiences.<sup>1</sup>

#### **Problems**

- 1. Led by white people
- 2. TOC are isolated
- 3. Mentors/leaders are not compensated

#### **Solutions**

- 1. Outside partnerships
- 2. Cluster hiring, Cross district grouping
- 3. Stipends/ Leadership positions for mentors/leaders



## Affinity Groups/Mentoring



Saint Paul Public Schools – Navigating Partners is a mentor-mentee program that serves new teachers. The Mentor Mentee Program is individualized, differentiated, and flexible to meet professional growth goals for educators just entering the field of education and those coming to Saint Paul Public Schools with previous experience. Probationary educators under the SPFE bargaining contract participate in the Mentor Mentee Program in their first year of employment if they are not working with a Peer Assistance and Review educator. Building principals or supervisors work very hard to find a mentor educator within the same grade level or content/professional area for each mentee.



## Alternative Licensure

Alternative Licensure refers to a "state-approved course of study, the completion of which signifies that an enrollee has met all the state's educational or training requirements for initial certification or licensure to teach in the state's elementary or secondary schools." For example, teacher residencies, portfolios, and grow-your-own programs.

#### **Problems**

Some lead to Tier 1

 'unprotected' licenses

#### **Solutions**

1. Districts provide a pathway to support movement through the Tiered system

2. Cost Transparency



→ 2. Secure state funding

### 1. Elephants in the Room are Named.

- 4 meetings
- No issue is too sensitive & no question is off
- Meeting norms are in alignment
- · Hidden perspectives are put on the table





### 2. Responsibility for the Organization's Future is Shared.

- High Action, High Alignment, High Accountability
- Think Outside (Department, Team, Box)
- No Turf

## 3. Independent Judgment is Expected.

- Reflect, honor, value, and center various identity perspectives as assets in policies and practices (Sue, 2001).
- The answers do not come from the top exclusively
- Multiple perspectives are valued

Teacher Dispositions					
ELEMENT	Nascent	<b>C</b> Beginning	C Progressing	<b>?</b> Proficient	C Advanced C
1. Empathy and valuing multiple perspectives	I have not yet explored how my personal beliefs have shaped my worldview.	I can identify my personal beliefs and experiences and recognize how they shape my view of the world. I recognize that I might hold stereotypes.	I understand that my beliefs and experiences are not universally shared. I can identify the influences that shape how others and I view the world. I am willing to explore the experiences and perspectives of people who challenge my beliefs.	I recognize biases and limitations of my own perspective and those of others' perspectives. I recognize how my personal beliefs influence my decisions as a teacher. I empathize by seeking to understand the perspectives of others.	I challenge my personal assumptions to understand viewpoints that differ from my own. I value diverse perspectives, including those that challenge my own.



## 4. Leadership Capacity is Developed.

- Leadership development is important
- Site level capacity
- Demonstrate excellence by being inclusive-minded and asset-focused





### 5. Reflection and Continuous Learning are Institutionalized.

- New ways to interpret what goes on and ways to carry out the work
- Growth is for everyone
- Refine, Refine and Refine
- Time to reflect is expected



### **Incentives**

- Actions include behaviors that can be taught, measured or evaluated.
- Problem identification and solving vs. ineffective and unsustainable solutions.
- Opt in for conversations about inclusion, diversity, race.
- Connection=Trust.



## Items for Discussion

- 1. What efforts are you or your districts currently engaging in?
- 2. With this information, what additional things could you do?
  - a. What support do you need?
  - b. What support do your districts need?







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