



Greater Beltway Learning Collaborative

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Washington, DC Office

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Project Synopsis:

UPD assisted the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in the development of a grant proposal to create a multi-district collaborative on using data to measure teacher effectiveness, develop charter schools, and to create early warning systems for high school drop-out.

Lead Firm: UPD Consulting
Project Manager: Bryan Richardson
Project Time Frame: September of 2008 to December of 2008

Project Background:

Program Officers at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation sought to build a multi-district collaborative among the District of Columbia Public Schools, Baltimore City Public Schools, and Prince George's County Public Schools to share best practices on innovative reform strategies. Specifically, the Gates Foundation wanted to help these three districts develop and implement programs to measure teacher effectiveness through student growth, develop charter schools, and create early warning systems for high school drop-out. The Gates Foundation hire UPD to help plan and score the collaborative and to generate a set of objective criteria against which the districts could measure their relative progress on the three initiatives. UPD developed detailed diagnostic rubrics that outside evaluators could use to objectively assess each district's progress.

Project Outcomes:

UPD created a 100 page diagnostic rubric on measuring teacher effectiveness, developing charter schools, and creating early warning systems. Each section contained measurable criteria of three to five categories against which partner districts would benchmark their progress over

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