

OSSE EdStat

Washington, DC Office of the State Superintendent of Education

UPD Consulting • PO Box 27175 • Baltimore, MD 21230 • www.updconsulting.com

Project Synopsis:

With funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, UPD supported OSSE in the development and implementation of EdStat, the first in the nation “Stat” performance management process at a State Education Agency.

- Lead Firm:** UPD Consulting
Project Manager: Bryan Richardson
Project Time Frame: February 2007 to November 2007

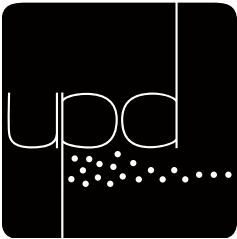
Project Background:

As part of broad education reforms in the District of Columbia in 2007, State Superintendent Deborah Gist was responsible for building DC’s new State Education Agency (SEA) separate from the District of Columbia Public Schools. This not only involved a top to bottom organizational re-structuring, it required the definition of new measures of performance and to establish a way to hold managers accountable for their work. Gist hired UPD to help OSSE develop and build the EdStat performance management program. The ultimate objective of this consulting work was to build OSSE’s capacity to manage EdStat within an internal EdStat office staffed with a Director and Data Analyst.

Project Outcomes:

EdStat led to the discovery of process bottlenecks and pushed more accountability to case managers. Within three months, OSSE reduced the backlog from 1,500 cases to zero and reduced processing time from 72 to 30 business days. In the year following implementation, processing time has been reduced to sixty minutes.

- References:** Rehva Jones, Director of Higher Education Financial Services
Office of the State Superintendent of Education
Government of the District of Columbia
Phone: (202) 724-2157
E-mail: rehva.jones@dc.gov



OSSE SLED

Washington, DC Office of the State Superintendent of Education

UPD Consulting • PO Box 27175 • Baltimore, MD 21230 • www.updconsulting.com

Project Synopsis:

UPD served as the project manager for OSSE's State Longitudinal Education Data warehouse (SLED). The SLED is the integration point for data on all public education students in the District of Columbia.

Lead Firm: UPD Consulting
Project Manager: Bryan Richardson
Project Time Frame: January 2008 to March 2008

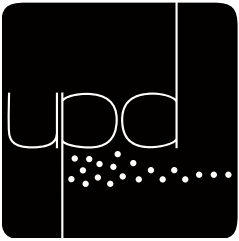
Project Background:

In 2007, the District of Columbia had 56 separate school districts (the DC Public Schools and 55 charter school districts) with no way of tracking students who moved between them. Without a single integration point of DC's longitudinal data, the District could not know what programs worked, which students were at risk, or which teachers and schools consistently beat the odds. OSSE hired UPD to serve as a technical and implementation advisor to a team creating the grant application to the US Department of Education for the State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS).

Project Outcomes:

UPD trained a team of internal technical and program staff, led the project team through an extensive requirements gathering process, and developed a five-year program budget, an implementation plan, and an interoperability plan to ensure that DC school districts had the resources and skills needed to upload their student and staff data into the state system. UPD then led the SLED project team in the development of request for information (RFI) and request for proposals (RFP) documents which were published at the conclusion of the UPD engagement.

References: Former State Superintendent of Education
Office of the State Superintendent of Education for the District of Columbia
(Current State Commissioner of Education for the State of Rhode Island)
Phone: 202-478-1320
E-mail: Deborah.gist@ride.ri.gov



OSSE Special Education Data System (SEDS)

Washington, DC Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE)

UPD Consulting • PO Box 27175 • Baltimore, MD 21230 • www.updconsulting.com

Project Synopsis:

UPD leads the implementation team on behalf of the OSSE Department of Special Education (DSE) for the statewide SEDS system.

- Lead Firm:** UPD Consulting
Project Manager: Sherry Chen
Project Time Frame: November 2007 to Present

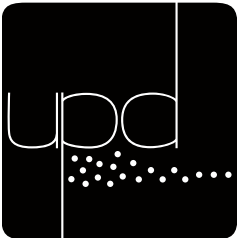
Project Background:

The District of Columbia was sued for failure to comply with federally mandated special education requirements. Under the consent decree that resulted from the lawsuit, the District is required to implement a new data system that will provide timely and accurate information regarding the status and progress of students' special education needs. The OSSE, a relatively new agency experiencing severe staff shortages, engaged UPD to lead this project on behalf of the department in part because of UPD's previous experience with Baltimore City's special education consent decree. The project has involved identifying, selecting and managing the IT vendor who provided the off-the-shelf product, and then working with OSSE and the local education agency stakeholders to develop policies and procedures and reconfigure business processes to ensure the efficient and effective utilization of the IEP system.

Project Outcomes:

UPD detailed special education business processes across the district and successfully implemented the 2009 Child Count using the system to collect data for all 61 LEAs in the District. UPD also developed training manuals and implemented a "train the trainer" program, and the statewide IEP system is now in full usage by all 61 LEAs.

- References:** Tameria Lewis, Assistant Superintendent of Special Education
Office of the State Superintendent of Education
Email: tameira.lewis@dc.gov



Human Capital Policy Research and Program Development

Washington, DC Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE)

UPD Consulting • PO Box 27175 • Baltimore, MD 21230 • www.updconsulting.com

Project Synopsis:

UPD assisted OSSE in developing a statewide approach to improving teacher effectiveness and launching key program initiatives to broaden the pipeline of effective classroom teachers.

- Lead Firm:** UPD Consulting
Project Manager: Robert Pipik
Project Partners: Cross and Joftus, Jennifer Green
Project Time Frame: October 2008 to November 2009

Project Background:

DC's State Superintendent for Education Deborah Gist made the improvement of a teacher quality and the development of data resources to support teacher effectiveness hallmarks of her tenure. UPD played a key role as "thought partner" by providing expert research and analysis of best practices at both the state and local levels, and contextualizing the findings to the unique DC educational environment. UPD led strategic work sessions with internal and external stakeholders including representatives of national teacher quality advocate and technical assistance organizations, DC Public Schools representatives, the DC Public Charter School Board and individual Charter School representatives, organized labor representatives, OSSE staff, leadership and State Board Members, and members of the general public.

Project Outcomes:

UPD's work with the Office of Educator Licensure led to the creation and approval of a new set of teacher preparation program standards by the State Board of Education, release of Request for Applications for "State-only" program approval, and, ultimately, to a new pipeline of effective teachers for DC students. The model of incorporating student achievement data measures of teacher effectiveness into advanced licensure considerations, developed by UPD through this engagement, is under consideration for adoption in other States and was used in the development of the State of Rhode Island's federal Race to the Top application in January 2010.

- References:** Erika Lomax, Director of Office of Educator Licensure and Accreditation
DC Office of the State Superintendent of Education
Phone: (202) 741-0257 Email: Erika.lomax@dc.gov