

From: Copa, Juan
Sent time: Wednesday, October 05, 2011 2:04:09 PM
To: Christy Hovanetz (christyh@excelined.org) <chovanetz2@meridianstrategiesllc.com>
Subject: RE: EDW data requests from the Brookings Institution

Not me. Jonathan Blakely is in charge of data requests.

We signed off.

From: Christy Hovanetz (christyh@excelined.org) [mailto:chovanetz2@meridianstrategiesllc.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 05, 2011 1:13 PM
To: Copa, Juan
Subject: FW: EDW data requests from the Brookings Institution

Update?

From: Grover J. Whitehurst [mailto:gwhitehurst@brookings.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, October 05, 2011 12:03 PM
To: Christy Hovanetz (christyh@excelined.org)
Subject: FW: EDW data requests from the Brookings Institution

Christy,

I haven't heard anything since the communication of Aug. 16 from John Winn. Can you follow up?

I've just received funding from the Smith Richardson Foundation to cover the costs of the analytic work, so getting access to the data quickly is now doubly important.

Best wishes,

Russ

Grover (Russ) Whitehurst
The Herman and George R. Brown Chair
Senior Fellow
Director of the Brown Center on Education Policy
The Brookings Institution / 1775 Massachusetts Ave NW
Washington, DC 20036 / 202-797-6174
Web: www.Brookings.edu/experts/whitehurstg.aspx
Web: www.Brookings.edu/brown.aspx

From: Winn, John [mailto:John.Winn@fldoe.org]
Sent: Tuesday, August 16, 2011 11:43 AM
To: Grover J. Whitehurst
Cc: christyh@excelined.org; #DataRequest; Matthew Chingos; Sarah Whitfield
Subject: RE: EDW data requests from the Brookings Institution

Russ:

Well done. I think this will be very useful going forward.

Thanks.

John

From: Grover J. Whitehurst [mailto:gwhitehurst@brookings.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, August 16, 2011 11:09 AM
To: Winn, John
Cc: 'christyh@excelined.org'; #DataRequest; Matthew Chingos; Sarah Whitfield
Subject: RE: EDW data requests from the Brookings Institution

Dear John,

Thank you very much for your feedback of yesterday on our request to the Florida DOE for data to examine variation in the performance of school districts in Florida. I'm attaching a revised submission that provides much more detail on our goals and plans. I think the revision should make clear that our principal interest is in determining the degree to which variability in student achievement can be attributed to districts (vs. schools, teachers, and student demographics) and whether persistently exceptional districts can be identified reliably using value-added approaches similar to those that have been developed to identify exceptional teachers.

Our interest in the characteristics of the leaders of effective districts is second-order and focused entirely on whether there is any association between district performance and non-traditional routes into the position of superintendent (e.g., people whose prior work experience is in business, have graduated from the Broad Leadership Academy, etc. vs. superintendents who rise through the ranks). Our interest in the practices of successful districts is also second order and narrowly framed. Specifically, we want to know if more effective compared to less effective districts achieve greater uniformity in the performance of their schools and classrooms or whether their success is best characterized as a rising tide that lifts all ships. I regret that our description of these two second order questions in our initial proposal was so broad and brief as to be misleading.

The revised submission also includes a description of our plans to conduct parallel analyses of student-level data from North Carolina and Texas. The comparative frame that is offered by the three-state analyses may offer unique insights on differences and similarities in how districts affect student achievement.

Thanks again for taking the time the talk with me. I hope you will agree that the proposed work on school districts as well as the project on the Florida VPK program have the potential of making a contribution to education policy in Florida.

Best regards and best wishes,

Russ

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From: Matthew Chingos
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2011 5:53 PM
To: 'data.request@fldoe.org'
Cc: Grover J. Whitehurst; 'christyh@excelined.org'
Subject: EDW data requests from the Brookings Institution

Attached are two data request packets I am submitting on behalf of Russ Whitehurst and myself. Nearly all of the requested data elements are listed in the "Districts" packet, although many of them would also be used for the project proposed in the "VPK" packet (so we have not re-listed them in the "VPK" packet).

We will mail in original, signed, and notarized documents as soon as possible.

Thank you for your considering these requests. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,
Matt Chingos

Matthew M. Chingos
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