Chapter Eleven llustrations

Rossi et. al. Evaluation

EXHIBIT 11-B

Research Questions for the Evaluation of the Transformation of North Carolina's Lowest Performing Schools

1. Assessing overall impacts

What are the effects of North Carolina School
Transformation on intermediate outcomes such as teacher
mobility and instructional practices and student outcomes,
such as achievement and disciplinary incidents?

2. Assessing subgroup impacts

What are the effects of North Carolina School Transformation on the outcomes of the lowest achieving students, defined as those not achieving proficiency on either mathematics or reading tests in the prior year?

3. Probing for underlying mechanisms or "active ingredients"

What underlying processes, such as student engagement or academic press, appear to mediate or suppress overall effects and effects on the lowest achieving students?

4. Assessing processes and implementation fidelity

What is the quality of the implementation of transformation services, including the comprehensive needs assessment, leadership coaching, instructional coaching, and professional development activities in turnaround schools? Are the transformation services implemented with fidelity? What is the amount and quality of comparable services delivered to control group schools during the study period?

EXHIBIT 11-C

EXAMPLE TIMELINE FOR AN EVALUATION
USING MIXED METHODS FOR DATA COLLECTION
(ADMINISTRATIVE, SURVEY, SITE VISITS, AND DOCUMENTS)

Implementation and Evaluation Tasks		Year 1										
	Lead	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6
Program participants identified	Agency		X									
Plan for services finalized	Agency	X										
Meetings with agency and evaluation team	Evaluator											
Evaluation procedures finalized	Evaluator	X										
Develop survey	Evaluator				X							
Develop implementation fidelity items	Evaluator				X							

Implementation		Year 1										
and Evaluation Tasks	Lead	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6
Develop service report coding rubric	Evaluator					Х						
Phase 1 services delivered	Agency											
Site research access agreements	Agency			X								
Phase 2 services delivered	Agency								X			
Phase 3 services delivered	Agency											
Administrative data transferred (baseline from prior year)	Agency											
Administrative data preparation	Evaluator						X					
Update baseline data treatment and control	Evaluator							X				
Check balance and conduct validity checks	Evaluator											
Report data transferred	Agency											
Pilot and finalize survey	Evaluator							X				
Test and finalize service report coding	Evaluator											
Semiannual Briefing 1	Evaluator							X				
Evaluation advisory committee meeting	Evaluator											
Code and analyze service report data	Evaluator									X		
Site visits	Evaluator										X	

Implementation		Year 1										
and Evaluation Tasks	Lead	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6
Administer survey	Evaluator									Χ		
Preliminary implementation briefing	Evaluator								X			
Clean and analyze survey data	Evaluator											X
Annual report preparation and finalize	Evaluator											
Update preliminary briefing	Evaluator											X
Semiannual Briefing 2	Evaluator											X

Note: Gray shading represents the period in which activities are conducted. X marks the completion month for the task.