

Chapter Eleven

Illustrations

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?

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

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