## Technical Review

**Applicant:** Intercultural Development Research Association (U411C170153)

**Reader #1:** **********

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<td><strong>Questions</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Selection Criteria</strong></td>
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<td>1. Significance</td>
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Questions

Selection Criteria - Significance

1. In determining the significance of the project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

   (1) The national significance of the proposed project.

   (2) The extent to which the proposed project involves the development or demonstration of promising new strategies that build on, or are alternatives to, existing strategies.

   (3) The extent to which the proposed project represents an exceptional approach to the priority or priorities established for the competition.

Strengths:

Criteria 1 – The proposed project involves creating process for training and supporting effective principals who will develop the ability to implement new practices for improving student achievement and promoting equity. The project also includes a focus on identifying master teachers who may pursue positions as assistant principals or principals in the future. P. 3. The proposed project has the potential to have national significance as a model for grow your own principal programs.

Criteria 2 – The proposed project builds on existing research regarding effective principal leadership. The applicant proposes to implement the new strategy of providing comprehensive professional development and support for current principals and master teachers. In addition, the proposed project implements the new strategy of providing joint training to principals and master teachers who serve as members of the school leadership team. P. 7. These strategies represent a promising approach to improving the effectiveness of principals.

Criteria 3 – The proposed project clearly addresses Absolute Priority 1 – Supporting High Need Students and Absolute Priority 5 – Improving the Effectiveness of Principals. The applicant proposes to support high need students supporting two high needs school district in San Antonio. P. 2. In addition, the applicant proposes to focus professional development on implementing practices to address equity and equality concerns. P. 3.

The applicant’s plan to provide extensive professional development and support for current and principals and master teachers represents an exceptional approach to Absolute Priority 5. The proposed project includes all aspects of increasing principal effectiveness including recruitment, selection, training, coaching and support.

Weaknesses:

No weaknesses noted.

Reader’s Score: 30

Selection Criteria - Quality of the Project Design and Management Plan

1. In determining the quality of the proposed project design, the Secretary considers the following factors:
(1) The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the project are clearly specified and measurable.

(2) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.

(3) The extent to which performance feedback and continuous improvement are integral to the design of the proposed project.

(4) The mechanisms the applicant will use to broadly disseminate information on its project so as to support further development or replication.

Strengths:

Criteria 1 – The applicant provides goals, objectives and outcomes for the proposed project. P. 11 – 12. Two of the goals for the proposed project are measurable. For example, the applicant states that Goal 1 is to “Increase the percentage of project students meeting state standards on the reading, writing, mathematics and science STAAR state-mandated achievement instrument by 20 percent.” P. 11. The goals are supported by specific objectives.

Criteria 2 – The applicant provides a management plan that includes specific milestones, timelines in the form of beginning and ending dates, and activities. The management plan identifies the key personnel responsible for each activity and milestone. P. 14 – 16. The management plan is clear, specific and likely to ensure that the project is completed on time and on budget.

Criteria 3 – The applicant proposes to gather feedback and monitor progress by implementing an “improvement loop” model. The model includes conducting formal progress assessments, providing progress reports to stakeholders, gathering feedback, and making periodic modifications to the project action plan based on feedback. P. 18-19.

Weaknesses:

Criteria 4 – The dissemination plan is limited. The proposed dissemination plan includes presenting at two national and state conferences. The proposed plan does not provide specific information about the conferences at which the applicant intends to present information about the project. The plan for dissemination is not sufficient. P. 16.

Reader’s Score: 45

Status: Submitted
Last Updated: 07/10/2017 09:42 AM
# Technical Review

**Applicant:** Intercultural Development Research Association (U411C170153)

**Reader #3:** **********

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Selection Criteria - Significance

1. In determining the significance of the project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

   (1) The national significance of the proposed project.

   (2) The extent to which the proposed project involves the development or demonstration of promising new strategies that build on, or are alternatives to, existing strategies.

   (3) The extent to which the proposed project represents an exceptional approach to the priority or priorities established for the competition.

Strengths:

The applicant establishes the national significance of improving the effectiveness of school leaders to improve the academic outcomes of high-need students. The proposal identifies five promising practices that will add to existing strategies, including professional development for principals and leadership teams collaboratively, and coaching for master teachers and leadership team members. The project represents a comprehensive approach to improving school leader effectiveness to support high-need students.

Weaknesses:

Selection Criteria - Quality of the Project Design and Management Plan

1. In determining the quality of the proposed project design, the Secretary considers the following factors:

   (1) The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the project are clearly specified and measurable.

   (2) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.

   (3) The extent to which performance feedback and continuous improvement are integral to the design of the proposed project.

   (4) The mechanisms the applicant will use to broadly disseminate information on its project so as to support further development or replication.

Strengths:

The project design includes clear and measurable goals, objectives, and outcomes focused on improving the effectiveness of school leaders as well as increasing academic performance of high-need students. The management plan defines responsibilities, timelines, and milestones and is supported by the logic model found on page 12. The proposal details an improvement loop, Exhibit 6, an ongoing process for periodic assessment, gathering feedback, and integrating feedback into a plan of action. A clear plan for broad dissemination of information is included.
Weaknesses:

Reader's Score: 50

Status: Submitted
Last Updated: 07/05/2017 04:08 PM
### Technical Review

**Applicant:** Intercultural Development Research Association (U411C170153)

**Reader #2:** ********

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Technical Review Form

Panel #17 - EIR - Early Phase - Content - 17: 84.411C

Reader #2:  **********
Applicant:  Intercultural Development Research Association (U411C170153)

Questions

Selection Criteria - Significance

1. In determining the significance of the project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

   (1) The national significance of the proposed project.

   (2) The extent to which the proposed project involves the development or demonstration of promising new strategies that build on, or are alternatives to, existing strategies.

   (3) The extent to which the proposed project represents an exceptional approach to the priority or priorities established for the competition.

Strengths:

1) The applicant's response to factor 1 of the significance section of the competition is exceptional. The applicant provides detailed information on the high poverty level of the students to be served by the project as well as the expertise of the practitioners leading the proposed project to successfully make the transformational changes that will provide an important contribution to the literature and to understanding change processes in many low performing campuses (p.2)

2) The applicant does an excellent job of demonstrating five promising new strategies. For example, by providing for current principals and leadership team members to attend workshops together and share collective responsibility for student learning, the applicant demonstrates an outstanding way of ensuring systemic effectiveness and the long term success of the project (p.3).

Weaknesses:

None

Reader's Score:  30

Selection Criteria - Quality of the Project Design and Management Plan

1. In determining the quality of the proposed project design, the Secretary considers the following factors:

   (1) The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the project are clearly specified and measurable.

   (2) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.

   (3) The extent to which performance feedback and continuous improvement are integral to the design of the proposed project.

   (4) The mechanisms the applicant will use to broadly disseminate information on its project so as to support further development or replication.
Strengths:

1 & 2) The applicant provides an outstanding response to factors one and two of the Design and Management Plan. The applicant includes three major goals, six measurable objectives and long term outcomes of student success, as well as clearly defined responsibilities, timelines and milestones. (pp 14-16). Additionally, the management plan is clearly aligned to the logic model (p12).

2) The applicant provides a detailed plan for accomplishing the tasks on time and within budget.

Weaknesses:

None

Reader's Score: 50

Status: Submitted
Last Updated: 07/05/2017 10:22 PM