TO: Illinois State Board of Education
FROM: Robert E. Schiller, Superintendent  
Clay Slagle, Director

Agenda Topic: Discussion: MPC/Deloitte Consulting Education Technology Project Report

Materials: MPC/Deloitte Consulting Report

Staff Contact(s): Clay Slagle

Purpose of Agenda Item

To present the findings of the study of thirteen (13) Illinois high poverty, high performing elementary schools that have demonstrated effective utilization of technology in data driven decision making processes.

Expected Outcome(s) of Agenda Item

To identify opportunities for the integration of project report recommendations into ISBE System of Support’s roles and responsibilities.

Background Information

A pro bono study titled, “Replicating Success: Leveraging Successful Data Driven Decision Making Processes” was conducted in early 2003. The project sponsors were:

- The Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC), founded in 1934, is a nonprofit, nonpartisan group of business and civic leaders committed to serving the public interest through the promotion and implementation of sensible planning and development policies necessary for a world-class Chicago region. MPC conducts policy analysis, outreach and advocacy in partnership with public officials and community leaders to improve equity of opportunity and quality of life throughout metropolitan Chicago.
- Network 21: Quality Schools for Stronger Communities is a coalition of education, business, labor and civic organizations that share a common interest in reforming Illinois' school finance system and in improving education outcomes through quality reforms. Network 21 is led by the MPC.
Deloitte Consulting is a leading management consulting firm. The Chicago office focuses its pro bono efforts on children, education, and technology.

An Advisory Group made up of experts in the field of education consisted of:
- Jonathan Copulsky, Deloitte Consulting, sponsoring Partner;
- Steve Kozlowski, former Prairie-Hills District Asst. Superintendent; current VP at About Learning;
- Holly Hart, Principal Survey Coordinator/Research Analyst, Consortium on Chicago School Research;
- Marilyn McConachie, former ISBE board member, Executive Assistant to Vice-President for Administration and University Outreach, Northern Illinois University;
- Max McGee, former ISBE superintendent, current Wilmette public school district superintendent; and
- Clare Muñana, Chicago Public Schools, Board of Education member.

Other groups and individuals contributing were:
- North Central Regional Educational Laboratory (NCREL);
- ISU, College of Education – Gates Foundation Training partnership; and
- Various current and former ISBE personnel.

The focus of the study was to identify common themes and practices at selected “Golden Spike” schools (13) to create a set of recommendations to leverage data driven decision making best practices at other elementary schools, particularly high poverty/low performance schools.

**Analysis and Implications for Policy, Budget, Legislative Action and Communications**

None required.

**Pros and Cons of Various Actions**

No Board action is required.

**Superintendent’s Recommendation**

None required.

**Next Steps**

Examine existing ISBE, Regional Offices of Education, other qualified channels and resources within the state education system to identify opportunities for replication and implementation.