



Academy for Urban School Leadership
3400 North Austin Avenue | Chicago, Illinois | 60634
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Lead Partner

AUSL's team will ideally include two full-time staff, a Project Director and a Coach. These individuals will be assigned full time to this effort, and will be on site. In addition, AUSL's project plan calls for the part-time participation of about 20 other AUSL experts across the range of school transformation topics including curriculum design, professional development delivery, performance management, special education, community engagement, school safety and security, etc. The Project Director will coordinate the participation of these experts as needed over the course of the project.

AUSL's role is advisory, and will provide information and recommendations that the District and school leaders can consider in their decision making. AUSL will also assist as District and school personnel implement processes, such as curriculum development. AUSL's services will also include professional development, observations, and coaching to build the skills and capacity of High School teachers, staff, and school leaders. AUSL, in its capacity as an advisor, may provide feedback to District leadership and/or the High School principal about the performance of High School teachers and Classified staff. AUSL team members will, if requested by District or High School leaders, participate in interviews of prospective new hires and offer recommendations to District or High School decision makers.

AUSL is a Chicago nonprofit school management organization that creates schools of excellence by developing highly effective teachers and transforming educational outcomes for students in the lowest performing schools. AUSL has been dedicated to school improvement since 2001, when we launched the Chicago Teacher Residency (CTR). AUSL created our residency program to improve student achievement by training the best teachers to teach successfully in the lowest performing schools. AUSL has grown from a single teacher-training academy to a network of 32 schools serving more than 18,000 students.

Current Programs:

Whole School Transformation Through Comprehensive Turnaround: The transformation begins with new leadership, new teachers (many of them trained through the CTR), new curriculum, additional after school programs, and newly renovated facilities. The same students return in the fall to the school, with a new climate and culture focused on success for every student. AUSL manages these turnaround schools under contract with Chicago Public Schools. AUSL schools are, and continue to be, public neighborhood schools.

The Chicago Teacher Residency (CTR): Teachers are central to our theory of change. Through professional development for our teachers and the CTR, AUSL develops highly effective teachers for the challenging urban environment. The majority of teachers at our turnaround schools are graduates of the CTR, a yearlong program in which residents train under the guidance of mentor teachers in the classroom and through coursework at National Louis University to obtain a Master's Degree. AUSL has developed numerous support structures within the Teacher Development Process (TDP) to guide CTR teachers through the urban educational landscape.

Reference: North Chicago Community High School
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