



A History of Educational Change & Its Impact on Best Practices

***Lawrence Elementary School
Facility Vision Task Force***

October 19, 2010



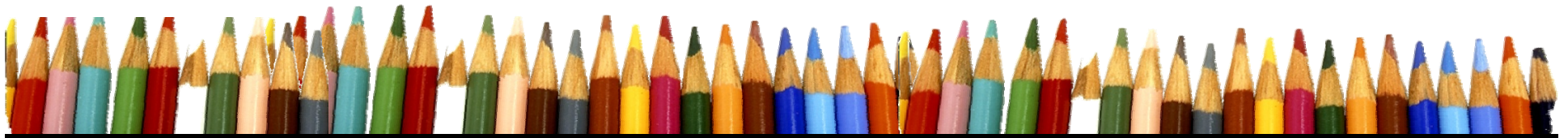
What impact does federal legislation have on school facilities & programming?



Key Factors Shaping National Educational Policy

- **National Security/Defense**
- **International Economic Competitiveness**
- **Civil Rights**
- **Religion**
- **The War on Poverty**

(Christopher Cross, 2005, Cross & Joftus, LLC)



National Security / Defense

- **Smith-Hughes Act of 1917/Perkins Act**
 - **WWI draft revealed high rates of illiteracy**
 - **Federal Board for Vocational Education established**
 - **Promoted teaching of agriculture, trades, industry, commerce & home economics**



National Security / Defense

- **The Impact Aid Act of 1950/Landham Act**
 - **Followed WWII**
 - **Result of federal appropriation of land for military bases**
 - **Assisted school districts affected financially by having to educate children living on military bases**



Civil Rights

- U.S. Supreme Court's *Brown v. Board of Education* Decision, 1954
- Powell Amendment barred federal aid to segregated districts, 1954-65.
- Civil Rights Act followed in 1964



International Competitiveness

- **Soviet Union launches Sputnik, 1957**
 - “Space Race”
 - **National Defense Education Act, 1958**
 - Promoted math, science and foreign language instruction



Religion

- **Elementary & Secondary Education Act, 1965**
 - Lyndon Johnson’s “Great Society”
 - **Switch from general federal aid to categorical aid for a specific purpose**
 - **Child-Benefit Theory: “Government aid benefits the child, not the school.”**
 - **Opened the door for public aid to non-public schools**



The War on Poverty

- **Economic Opportunity Act, 1965**
 - **Head Start**
 - **Federal legislation designed to ameliorate significant social problems**



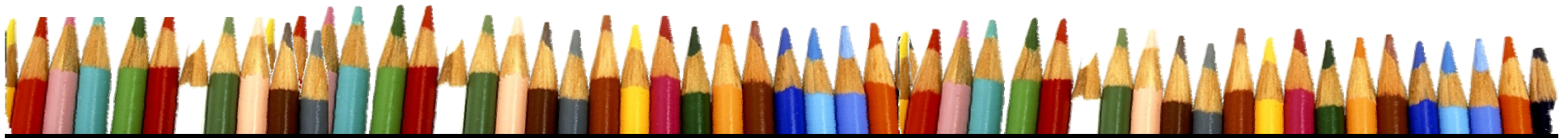
Civil Rights

- **Emergency School Aid Act, Higher Education Act, 1972**
 - Pell Grants for higher education
 - **Title IX, Anti-gender discrimination**
 - Funds for districts that couldn't “afford” desegregation
- **Education of All Handicapped Children Act, 1975 (Now called IDEA)**



International Competitiveness

- **A Nation At Risk Report, 1983**
- **Reauthorization of ESEA, 1988**
 - **Schools, districts & states must define levels of achievement expected of students receiving federal aid**
 - **Content standards**



International Competitiveness

- **National Education Summit, 1989**
 - **National Education Goals, 1990**
 - **“U.S. will be first in the world in math & science.”**



International Competitiveness

- **Reauthorization of ESEA, 1994**
 - **Framework linking standards, testing, teacher training, curriculum & accountability**
 - **Systemic reform**



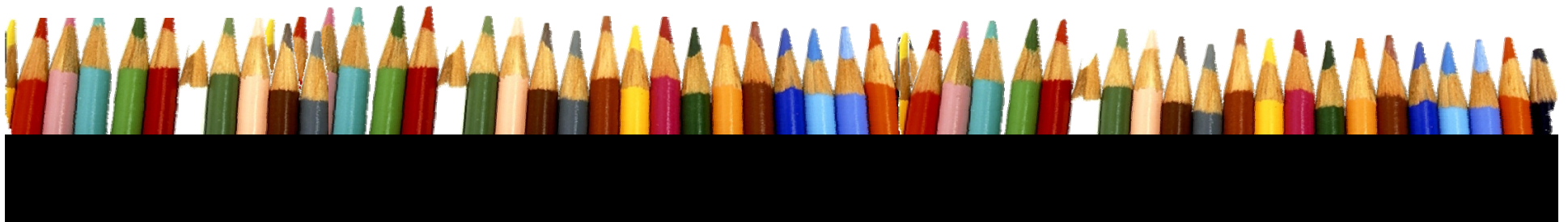
International Competitiveness

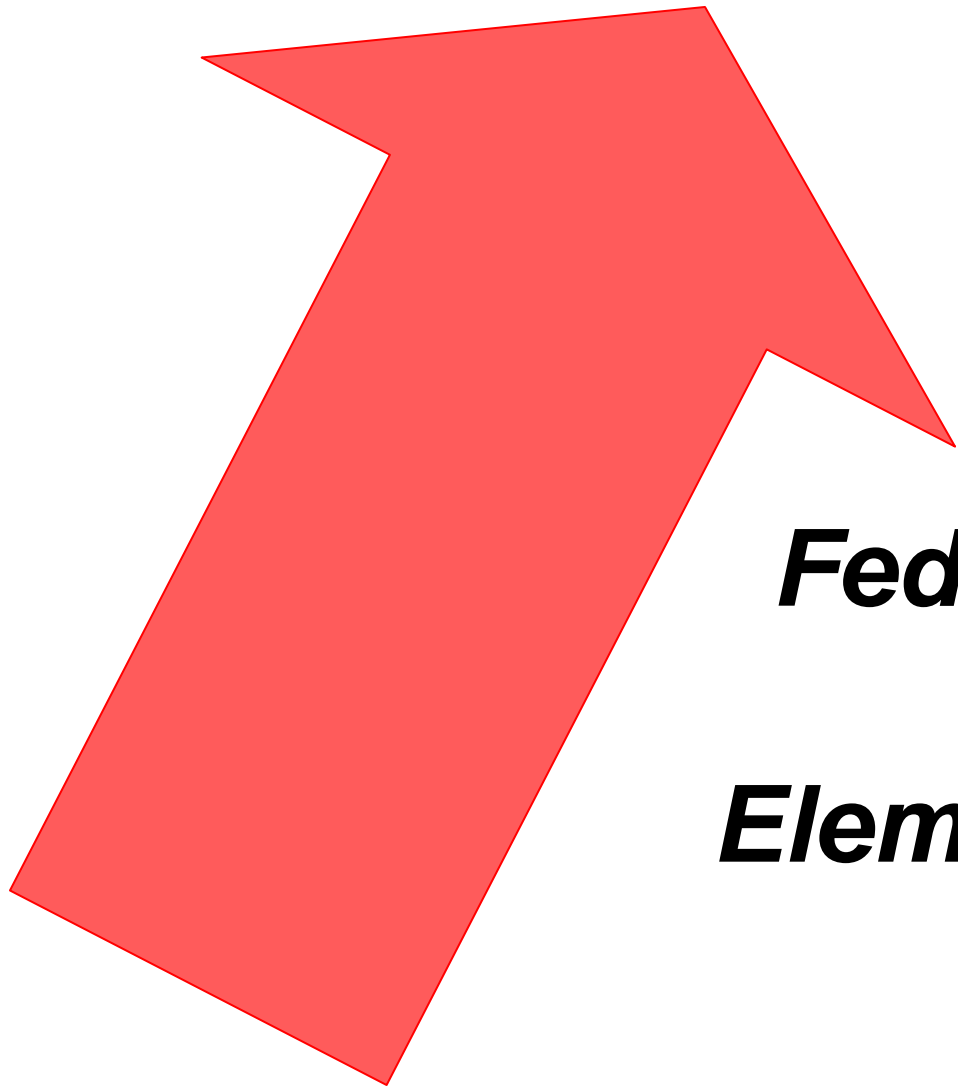
- **“Goals 2000,” 1994, & Educate America Act**
 - **Competency standards**
 - **Grants awarded to school districts based on improvement plans**
 - **Comprehensive education & training**



Recent Developments

- **No Child Left Behind Act, 2001**
 - **Accountability for student performance**
 - **Emphasis on the achievement of students from poverty & students of color**
- **Common standards, 2010**





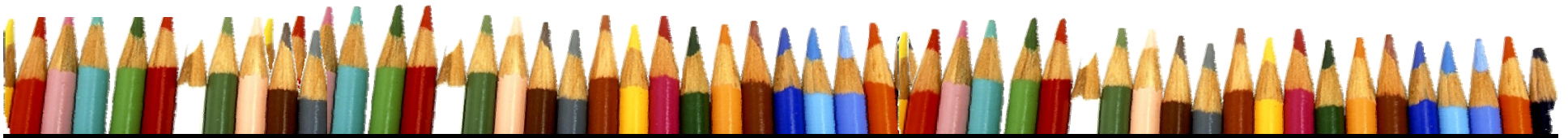
***Federal Mandates
for
Elementary Schools***



1900-1910

- Nutrition
- Immunization Management
- Health

(Adapted from Vollmer & Associates, 1995 & Fisch, 2008)



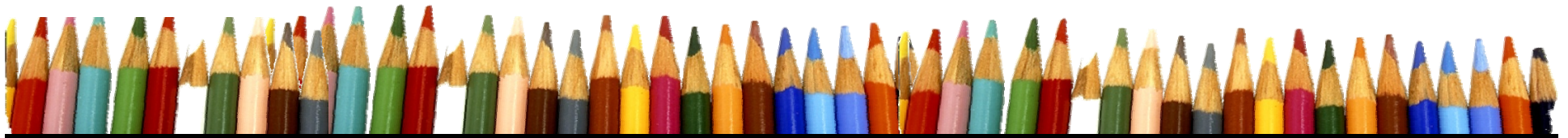
1920s-1940s

- **Half-Day Kindergarten**
- **Physical Education**
- **School Lunch Programs**



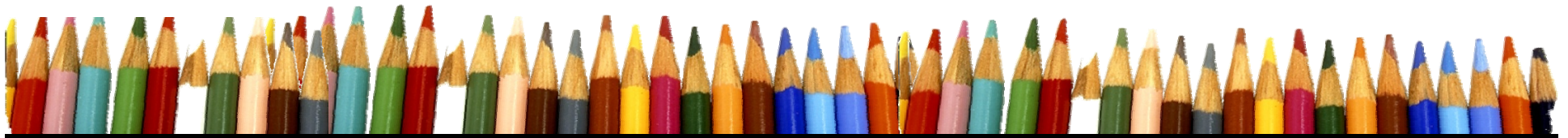
1950s

- **Safety Education**
- **Expanded Music & Art Education**
- **Sex Education Introduced**



1960s

- **Consumer Education**
- **Career Education**
- **Recreation Education**



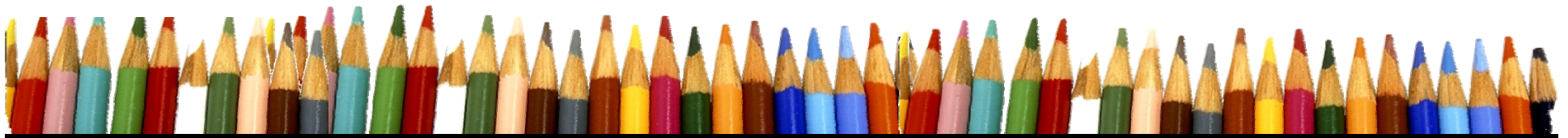
1970s

- **Special Education Federal Mandate**
- **Family Rights & Privacy Act**
- **Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)**
- **Learning Disabilities**
- **Title IX Programs**
- **Drug & Alcohol Abuse Education**
- **Head Start**
- **Parent Education**
- **Fire Safety Education**
- **Behavior Adjustment Classes**
- **Character Education**
- **Environmental Education**
- **School Breakfast Programs**



1980s

- Ethnic Education
- Multicultural/Non-Sexist Education
- English as a Second Language
- Bilingual Education
- Early Childhood Education
- Jump Start, Early Start, Even Start & Prime Start
- Full-Day Kindergarten
- Gifted Education
- Standards-Based Education
- Preschool Programs for At-Risk Children
- Before- & After-School Programs
- “Stranger Danger” Education
- Anti-Smoking Education
- Sexual Abuse Prevention Education
- Expanded Health & Psychological Services
- Mandatory Child Abuse Monitoring



1990s

- **AIDS Education**
- **Expanded Computer & Internet Education**
- **Native American Services**
- **Migrant Education**
- **Inclusion**
- **Education for Juvenile Offenders & Incarcerated Youth**
- **Homeless Support Programs**
- **Gang Prevention Education**
- **Bus Safety Education**
- **Bicycle Safety Education**



Post-2000 ...

- **IDEIA**
- **NCLB (AYP)**
- **Reading First**
- **Magnet & Charter schools**
- **Autism Education**
- **Formative Assessments**
- **High-Stakes Assessments**
- **Outcomes Education**
- **Wellness / Coordinated School Health**
- **Bullying Prevention**
- **Suicide Prevention**
- **Personal Finance & Economics Education**





Federal Funding



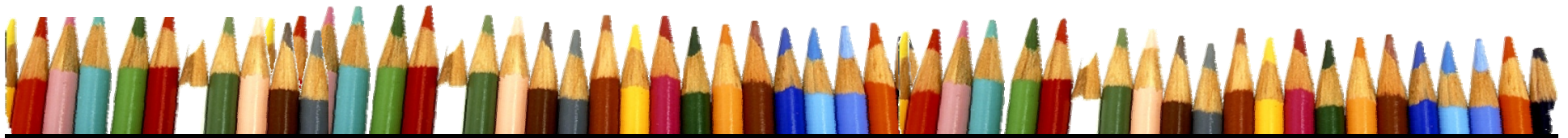
Federal Funds

- **Title I Part A – Support for students from poverty**
 - Previously supported schools with 35%+ low SES
 - Currently supports schools with 50%+ low SES
- **Title I ARRA – Federal stimulus (one-time) funds**
 - Enables Title support for 1 elementary & 1 junior high
 - Allocation ends in 2010-11
- **Title II A – High-quality staff & professional development**
 - 2003-04: \$483,785
 - 2010-11: \$462,849



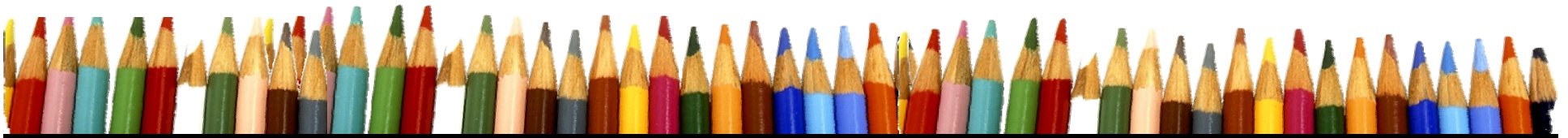
Federal Funds

- **Title II D – Integration of technology & technology professional development**
 - 2003-04: \$54,943
 - 2010-11: \$5,329
- **Title III – Supports language instruction for limited English proficient & immigrant students through teacher professional development & parent involvement planning**
 - 2003-04: \$58,222
 - 2010-11: \$59,600



Federal Funds

- **Title IV – Safe & drug-free schools**
 - 2003-04: \$62,774
 - Fund eliminated in 2010-11
- **Title V – Innovative educational programs**
 - 2003-04: \$60,852
 - Fund eliminated in 2008-09



Systemic Change

From	To
Assembly line	Quality instruction for each student
Sort and select	Achievement for all
Time is the constant. Learning is optional.	Learning is constant. Time is the variable.
Independent contractors	Team teaching & collaboration



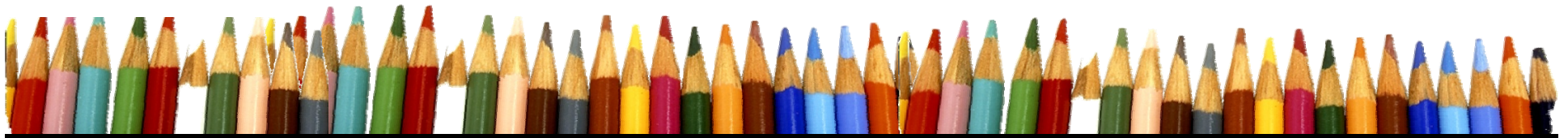


***What do we know
about Best Practices?***



Best Practices in Education

- **Most interventions have some positive effect on student achievement.**
- **A meta-analysis of 138 interventions found that only five had negative effects:**
 - **Summer vacation, welfare policies, retention, television & mobility**



Best Practices in Education

So, if nearly everything helps...

- What helps the most?**
- What's the cost-benefit analysis?**
- Why is our task so difficult?**
- Limited resources – many opinions**



“Effect Size”

- Of 138 interventions analyzed, 66 demonstrated an “effect size” of .4 +
 - 33 of those dealt with teaching, 13 with curriculum, 9 with students, 8 with school & 3 with home.
 - Class size “effect size” = .21
 - Most school size research relates to the secondary level.



Teaching (33 of 66)

Examples:

- **Formative evaluation**
- **Micro-teaching**
- **Reciprocal teaching**
- **Feedback**
- **Teacher-student relationship**
- **Meta-cognition strategies**
- **Spaced vs. mass practice**
- **Teacher clarity**
- **Professional development**
- **Cooperative learning**
- **Direct instruction**



Curricula (13 of 66)

Examples:

- Vocabulary programs
- **Phonics**
- Comprehension programs
- **Creativity programs**



School (8 of 66)

Examples:

- Acceleration
- Classroom Behavior
- Classroom Cohesion



Students (9 of 66)

Examples:

- **Goal setting**
- **High expectations**
- **Prior achievement**
- **Pre-term birth weight**



Home (3 of 66)

- **Socio-economic status**
- **Home environment**
- **Parental involvement**



Best Practices in Education

- Highly trained/motivated teachers
- **Data-informed teaching decisions**
- Data-informed resource allocation
- **Student-focused instruction**
- Job-embedded professional development
- Special education/ESL delivered in the student's home school
- **Tight curriculum**
- Prior knowledge
- **Strong teacher-student relationships**
- Cooperative learning
- **Parent involvement**
- Strong Instructional Leadership





Implications for Best Practices



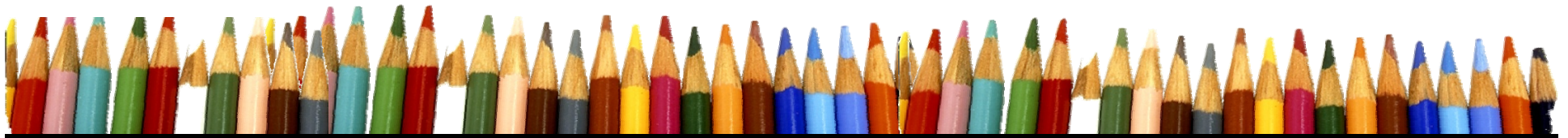
Implications for Best Practices

- **Teacher quality is the #1 priority!**
- **The teacher is more important than the school.**



Implications for Best Practices

- **Formative assessments are more important than summative assessments.**



Implications for Best Practices

- **Data-informed resource allocation is a better practice than equal allocation of resources.**



Implications for Best Practices

- **Job-embedded professional development trumps “one-time, sit-and-get.”**



Implications for Best Practices

- **Teams of teachers taking responsibility for all students is a better instructional delivery model than one in which teachers act as independent contractors.**



Implications for Best Practices

- **Special education & English as a Second Language services are best delivered in schools that students would normally attend, rather than program “cluster sites.” (If neighborhood schools have adequate resources and skilled staff.)**



Implications for Best Practices

- **Having tight curriculum/assessment is better than having many individuals making their own decisions about what is taught & how it's tested.**



Implications for Best Practices

- **Early childhood education & full-day kindergarten are important to providing prior knowledge.**



Implications for Best Practices

- **Strong teacher-student relationships matter.**



Implications for Best Practices

- **Cooperative learning, rather than competitive learning, is preferred.**



Implications for Best Practices

- **Parent involvement can help improve student achievement.**



“In most western countries, take two students of the same ability, and it matters not which school they attend. That does not seem to stop the search for the point of difference for schools and a lot of time spent debating school structural issues: the size of the school, the class size, the tracking, and the finances – which are among the least influences on student achievement.”

– John Hattie, 2009



Questions?

