

## Achieving School Turnaround

October 28, 2010

### Participant Agenda

8:00 Registration (Coffee and pastries available in lobby)

#### Part I: Learning from Research

8:30 Welcome - Kentucky Department of Education, University of Louisville, Collaborative for Teaching and Learning, Regional Education Lab – Appalachia, and Guest Speakers

8:45 Understanding the Language of the Research Discussion- Dr. Deborah Walker, CTL

*Explore and discuss key research terminology to set a common and understood language*

9:15 Taking Note of Key Research Findings- Amy Awbrey Pallangyo

*View and discuss video clips from Dr. Rebecca Herman from the IES Practice Guide panel, focused on the Practice Guide: Turning Around Chronically Low Performing Schools.*

10:00 BREAK

10:15 Sharing & Building a Vision of Success- Deborah Walker and Principal Keith Hale

*Case study #1 – Principal Hale will share the turn-around experience of his school across four key action areas, and describe the action steps used to support school improvement.*

#### Part II: Bridging from Research to Practice

11:00 Envisioning a Turnaround School - Amy Awbrey Pallangyo, CTL

*Develop a vision for school turnaround, connected to existing school improvement plans*

11:30 Tools to Support Your Vision- Amy Awbrey Pallangyo

*Explore specific IES Toolkit worksheets that serve as a resource to realize the vision*

12:15 LUNCH

1:15 Identifying Action Steps - Amy Awbrey Pallangyo

*Map out school-specific action steps*

Learn more about REL Appalachia at [www.relappalachia.org](http://www.relappalachia.org)

2:15 Leadership Self-Assessment - Deborah Walker

*Complete Practice Guide Checklist to confirm plans*

2:30 Break

2:45 The Vision Realized: Deborah Walker & Guest Exemplar Principals

*Case study #2 & #3 –Guest Principals share turnaround experiences across four key action areas, and describe the vision of a turned-around school, with questions and discussion*

3:45 Directions for Virtual Follow-Up Activities – Roland O’Daniel, CTL

3:55 Closure/ Event Evaluation

### Guest Exemplar Leaders

**Mr. Keith Hale** is principal of Barren County High School who since coming to the school several years ago has emphasized improved instruction, increased teacher accountability for student results, preparation for college for all students, and opening advanced program courses to all students in an effort to assure rigor. In 2008-09, the school made AYP for the first time in seven years, met all reading and mathematics targets, and significantly increased student performance on the Explore and ACT tests with significantly more students meeting ACT benchmarks.

**Ms. Kathy Fields**, district resource administrator and Highly Skilled Educator along with **Margie Maloney**, Assistant Principal at West Jessamine Middle School, have led school turnaround efforts, resulting in movement out of Tier 4, the lowest category of school performance into a school that has meet state assessment and NCLB targets for 2009, a dramatic turnaround in a two-year period. Central to their turnaround was and is implementation of CTL’s Adolescent Literacy Model as part of a federal Striving Readers research grant, which provided the impetus for significant improvement in classroom instruction as well as creation of an infrastructure, through literacy coaching and a school literacy leadership team, to promote and sustain improvement efforts.

**Dr. Dewey Hensley** is (via video tape) principal of Atkinson Elementary School in Jefferson County (KY) Public Schools. Atkinson had long been one of the lowest-performing schools with multiple district and state efforts aimed at improving chronic underperformance of its students. Under Dr. Hensley’s leadership, instruction has improved as have discipline and other overall climate of the school, with a corresponding lift in student achievement. In 2008-09, the most recent year data are available, the school met its reading and mathematics targets and also met all 13 AYP goals for the first time in seven years. Dr. Hensley is a former principal in a rural district and a Highly Skilled Educator employed by the Kentucky Department of Education to intervene in schools not meeting their state assessment targets.

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