

# Turning Around Low-Performing Rural Schools

REL Northwest/Education Northwest Offices, Portland, OR

October 25, 2011

8:00–8:30 a.m. **Registration & continental breakfast**

8:30–9:00 a.m. **Welcome and overview of the day**  
Deborah Davis, Education Northwest  
Timothy Speth, State Outreach Coordinator

9:00–10:45 a.m. **Researcher perspective on the practice guide *Turning Around Chronically Low-Performing Schools* and how it relates to rural School Improvement Grant (SIG) implementation in the Northwest**  
Dr. Sam Redding, Center on Innovation and Improvement will discuss the practice guide recommendations:

- *Signal the Need for Dramatic Change*
- *Make Visible Improvements Early in the Process*
- *Focus on Instruction*
- *Build Committed Staff*

— Break —

11:00–Noon **Panel Discussion: “Turnaround Successes in Progress”**  
Moderated by Deborah Davis, REL Northwest  
Principals and/or representatives from rural SIG sites will respond to questions about their implementation challenges and successes.

12:00–1:00 p.m. **Working Lunch**  
Facilitated discussion of implementation pitfalls.

1:00–1:30 p.m. **Demonstration of the Doing What Works Website**  
Katie Luers/Jacqueline Raphael, REL Northwest  
This session introduces participants to resources available on the Doing What Works website.

1:30–2:30 p.m. **Panel Discussion: “How Northwest SEAs Are Managing the Dual Roles of Monitoring and Supporting Rural SIG Sites”**  
Moderated by Dr. Danette Parsley, REL Northwest

— Break —

2:45–3:45 p.m. **Cross-Role Groups: Where is more support needed to implement turnarounds? Barriers and Leverage Points; Q & A**

Dr. Sam Redding, Center on Innovation and Improvement

3:45–4:00 p.m. **Wrap-up, Feedback, and Adjourn**

*This event is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education's Institute for Education Sciences, REL Northwest, Northwest Regional Comprehensive Center, and Alaska Comprehensive Center. (Note: Costs associated with the breakfast and working lunch will be covered by partner organizations.)*