

Congratulations!

Florida Atlantic University (FAU) has been awarded the **Job-embedded Principal Preparation Program** Race to the Top grant. Florida Atlantic University is partnering with Broward County Public Schools to build a joint, state-of-the-art educational leadership program to improve student achievement by implementing research-based strategies and concrete evaluative measures centered on a job-embedded experience.

The Department congratulates FAU and Broward County for their innovative thinking to redesign their Educational Leadership and Research Methodology and Human Resource Development educational leadership certification programs to create a well-structured, standards-based, job-embedded model designed to develop effective leadership for high-need schools.

This new program, called **Principal Rapid Orientation and Preparation in Educational Leadership Program (PROPEL)**, will strengthen and improve the recruitment, selection, preparation, evaluation, and support of aspiring and novice principals. PROPEL will reform the current educational leadership certification programs resulting in dual Level 1 and Level 2 Certification while ensuring rigor and relevance for aspiring school leaders.

Through the creation of this redesigned principal preparation program, the partners will be aligning the recruitment, selection, preparation, and evaluation systems to create an accelerated program for teachers aspiring to be principals. PROPEL plans to build internal capacity of both partners for mentoring, training, evaluation and implementing sustainable systems that will be viable into the future and replicable in other districts. The program will endow Broward County Public School's aspiring and novice principals with the knowledge and skills to effectively respond to the challenges faced by urban school leaders as they skillfully and strategically strive to increase student achievement.

Not only will this program meet Broward County Public Schools leadership needs through the preparation of 30 principals each year, but through these reforms it will provide a model - using research and evaluation - of enhancing student learning through the program's design based on best practices for aspiring principals in urban school districts.