

Leading Student Achievement: Our Principal Purpose

Taking the Project to the Next Level

2007-2008

Three Objectives to Guide LSA Initiatives over the Next Year
1.
2.
3.

Focused Instruction

The most critical classroom learning condition is the quality of instruction provided to students. A very recent study has found significant positive effects of an approach toward instruction the researchers have labeled “focused”. This instruction is characterized by very active engagement on the part of the teacher in whatever instructional approach he/she chooses to use in the classroom. In essence it has three components:

- 1.** _____
- 2.** _____
- 3.** _____

**New Priorities for the LSA Project:
School Conditions with Powerful Direct Effects on Student Learning**

Condition	Definition	Leadership Practices
Academic Press (AP)		

School Disciplinary Climate		
Collective Teacher Efficacy (CTE)		
Teacher Trust in Colleagues, Students and Parents		
Time for Learning		

Worth Noting:

These conditions are properties of the group and they are “soft” – i.e. they are socio-psychological states, rather than bricks and mortar, money contracts or teaching materials.

There is little dependence on resources controlled largely outside the school in order to nurture the development of these school conditions.

In a number of instances, the effects of these conditions on student achievement exceed the effects of students’ background, prior achievement, race and gender.