Investing in Innovation (i3) Fund Summary
Due May 11, 2010

Purpose

The **i3** program will provide grants to schools and school partnerships that can demonstrate they have a successful, innovative model practice that has had an impact on:

- improving student achievement/student growth;
- closing the achievement gap;
- decreasing dropout rates/increasing graduation rates; and
- increasing college enrollment/completion.

Requirements

1. Improve Achievement for High-Need Students (at least 40% of school enrollment is eligible for free or reduced lunch);
2. Meets an absolute priority (i.e., Improved Use of Data Systems,); and
3. Meets one or more competitive priorities: (a) Early Learning; (b) College Access and Success; (c) Serving Students with Disabilities and English Language Learners; and (d) Serving Students in Rural LEAs;

Improved Use of Data Systems involves **encouraging** and facilitating the evaluation, analysis, and use of student achievement or student growth data **by** educators, families, and other stakeholders **to inform** decision-making and improve student achievement, student growth, **or** teacher, principal, school, or district performance and productivity.

What the System Can Do

Western Heights school district has a longitudinal data system that provides real-time information for making key decisions by parents, counselors, support staff, administrators, and teachers, which can be adapted or replicated to meet the needs of most districts. The system relies on a common language, will meet the academic content standards of all partners, and has an innovative way to document student mobility. It contains interactive data elements that include family demographics, attendance, disciplinary actions, learning styles, classroom performance, test results, participation in school activities, and classroom schedules.

What is the Partner's Commitment?

The i3 funds require that a district bring its innovation to scale (more districts implementing the innovation at the state, regional, or national levels). Western Heights needs partners who are willing to strengthen the quality and impact of their data systems to improve teaching, learning, and management. Partners will commit to developing or enhancing their data systems based on Western Heights' innovative model. Partners will also commit to participation in a research design that documents the efforts and activities of all partners relevant to establishing a longitudinal data system and measures programmatic, including student, outcomes during the grant period.

The partnership will include Western Heights Public Schools and other school districts in Oklahoma, Texas and Arkansas, two major universities, three career/technology centers, three community colleges, a regional education technical assistance center, a regional educational laboratory, community service agencies, and industry partners from the private sector specializing in technological innovations.