

# North Carolina Teacher Compensation Models and Advanced Teaching Roles – Request for Proposals

## Proposal Cover Page

Project Title: Opportunity Culture in Halifax County Schools

### Section 1. Applicant Information

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### Section 2. Project Information

Project Director Name and Position (if different from contact): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Project Budget: \$638,000 Requested Grant Amount: \$638,000

Estimated Number of Schools Served: 10 Estimated Number of Students Served: 2,290

By signing below, I assure NCDPI that I am an official of the organization and authorized to bind the organization. I certify the following (*check each box so as to indicate your review and certification*):

- The information provided in this proposal is correct and complete.
- The applicant understands that this proposal and all attachments submitted are public records.
- The applicant understands that if awarded a grant, it will be required to:
  - Participate in all evaluation activities, including collection, recording, and reporting of data, as required by NCDPI, NCSBE, or third-party evaluators, in compliance with relevant privacy laws.
  - Submit required financial and performance reports to NCDPI.

- Comply with the North Carolina General Statutes, the North Carolina Administrative Code, and any other rules or regulations that may govern the performance and oversight of this program.
- Begin serving participants before or by July 1, 2019.

**Signature and date: (in blue ink)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## **PROPOSAL NARRATIVE**

### **Introduction**

Halifax County Schools is “Charting a New Course” to student achievement by addressing the needs of the whole child through a systematic research based approach of instructional best practices, in-depth professional development, as well as purposeful recruitment and retention efforts. The development of the Advanced Teacher Roles through the Opportunity Culture Model will improve the quality of newly hired teachers; develop current teachers; and add to the instructional knowledge base of the school system to increase student achievement. The Advanced Teacher Role grant will cover design, implementation, and transition costs associated with implementing the Opportunity Culture model, such as employing contractors to assist with design, and providing dollars for professional development for the district, school design teams, and newly-hired advanced teacher roles. The overall impact of the Advanced Teacher Leader model will be an increase of the number of schools and teachers who exceed growth as measured by EVAAS; increase the district’s overall achievement composite by ten percentage points; increase the teacher retention rates by 10 percentage points; and decrease the number of schools who are identified as Low Performing by the state.

### **Program Structure**

Halifax County Schools will work with Public Impact to design and implement career pathways that extend the reach of excellent teachers to multiple classrooms. These career opportunities encourage educators to grow in their profession while continuing to teach and are designed to spread the availability of rigorous classroom instruction to more students. Public Impact will guide Halifax County Schools through a process to design paid school-level roles that create an “Opportunity Culture” for skilled teachers to lead a team of teachers while

continuing their own teaching practice that will extend their reach in other ways. The teacher career pathway aligns to the Halifax County Schools' Charting a New Course to Student Achievement Strategic Plan's focus area of Human Resource Development and Management. More specifically, teacher career pathways will decrease the 29% teacher turnover rate (as of March 2018) through retention of our most effective teachers and more purposeful, in-depth support of new teachers and decrease the school system's dependence of staff members licensed as lateral entry or Visiting International Faculty. Halifax County Schools will then work with Public Impact to design a system that ensures lateral entry teachers receive intensive job-embedded professional learning the team leaders and their teammates.

### **About Public Impact and Opportunity Culture: Strong Early Results**

Based in Carrboro, North Carolina and working nationally, Public Impact is committed to dramatically improve educational outcomes for all U.S. students, particularly those who are not well-served by today's schools. Since excellent teachers make the greatest difference of any school-based factor in student learning, Public Impact launched the Opportunity Culture initiative to help teachers, schools and districts "extend the reach" of the nation's excellent teachers to all students. By changing roles, schedules, and the use of funding, Opportunity Culture models place excellent teachers in charge of all students' learning, directly or by leading teams. Teacher-leaders taking on these advanced roles can move along a career path in which they earn more and have more impact, while continuing to teach. And school districts can fund these new teacher-leader positions within existing school budgets, making Opportunity Culture models sustainable for the long-haul without grant funding. Those paid career paths in turn help attract and keep great teachers, who in turn help other teachers develop daily on the job in small

teams. The principal gains access to a “team of leaders,” a great improvement over individually managing each teacher.

Nationally, at least 227 schools in 22 districts are currently implementing or preparing to implement Opportunity Culture models. This includes 332 teachers in advanced roles, 1,131 teachers receiving on-the-job development via teacher-led teams, and more than 41,000 students with an excellent teacher at the helm of their instruction. In North Carolina, five districts are now implementing Opportunity Culture: Cabarrus, Charlotte-Mecklenburg (including Project L.I.F.T.), Edgecombe, Guilford, and Vance.

In January 2018, a rigorous third-party evaluation found that students of teachers who served on teams led by Multi-Classroom Leaders showed sizable, statistically significant academic gains. The team teachers were, on average, at the 50th percentile in the student learning gains they produced before joining a team led by Multi-Classroom Leader. After joining the teams, they produced learning gains equivalent to those of teachers in the 75th to 85th percentiles in math, and, in six of seven statistical models, from the 66th to 72nd percentiles in reading.<sup>1</sup>

Opportunity Culture roles have attracted strong and competitive pools of candidates, with schools selecting just eight percent of applicants. Well over 90 percent of teachers in Opportunity Culture schools respond positively to survey questions about their satisfaction – and those surveys include teachers in advanced roles and the teachers they lead. Average pay

### OPPORTUNITY CULTURE PRINCIPLES

*Teams of teachers and school leaders must choose and tailor models to:*

1. Reach more students with excellent teachers and their teams
2. Pay teachers more for extending their reach
3. Fund pay within regular budgets
4. Provide protected in-school time and clarity about how to use it for planning, collaboration, and development
5. Match authority and accountability to each person's responsibilities



supplement for advanced teaching roles in Opportunity Culture is \$10,401 above the salary schedule, *all within existing school budgets*.

### **The Opportunity Culture Design Process**

Getting to these results requires district leaders to engage in a design process that defines new roles available and selection criteria for those roles, sets compensation levels for the new positions, and revises policies, recruitment and hiring efforts, evaluation systems, and professional learning services to support schools in the redesign work. It also requires teams at the school level, made up mostly of teachers, to choose and tailor use of the roles to fit their own context. School teams establish the staffing model, schedule, and implementation plan that will work for their school's faculty and students.

Halifax County Schools will partner with Public Impact to lead this design process in our district and schools to:

- Establish district-level guidance for how schools can use Opportunity Culture teacher leader roles to improve student learning and school culture,
- Support schools in developing their unique staffing and implementation plans
- Prepare district leaders and principals to select strong candidates for Opportunity Culture roles,
- Help teachers and principals prepare to implement these new and unique roles,
- Assess effectiveness of implementation and identify possible improvements, and
- Analyze outcomes to communicate what has been achieved.

This process is described in greater detail in the below section Implementation Plan.

### **Advanced Teaching Roles and Qualifications to be Created**

Halifax County Schools will create two types of advanced teaching roles through its

Opportunity Culture work: Multi-Classroom Leaders and Team Reach Teachers.

Advanced Teaching Role Summary	Example Levels and Qualifications (to be determined during design year)
<p><b>Multi-Classroom Leader (MCL)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leads a small teaching team and shares instructional responsibility for all students taught by that group of students.</li> <li>• Continues to teach, typically part of the time.</li> <li>• Ultimately responsible for organizing the roles, steps and elements of the team’s curriculum, lessons, teaching, data analysis, and improvement.</li> <li>• Coaches and develops the team.</li> <li>• Earns a pay supplement.</li> </ul>	<p><b>MCL II</b>—Leads team of 6–8 teachers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued track record of leadership and high-growth student learning as an MCL I (using the same qualifications).</li> </ul> <hr/> <p><b>MCL I</b>—Leads team of 2–5 teachers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Track record of leadership;</li> <li>• Receive a rating of at least accomplished on each of the Teacher Evaluation Standards 1-5 on the North Carolina Teacher Evaluation instrument or the equivalent on an out-of-state evaluation system; and</li> <li>• Demonstrate evidence that the teacher has exceeded expected student growth based on the last three years of teacher evaluation data as calculated by the State Board of Education.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Team Reach Teacher</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teaches on a team led by a multi-classroom leader, collaborating with colleagues.</li> <li>• Teachers an increased number of students and is accountable for their performance as the teacher of record for those students.</li> <li>• May use limited-quantity, age-appropriate blended learning and/or, in elementary schools, specialize by subject(s).</li> <li>• May have a more specific title, such as: expanded-impact teacher, blended-learning teacher, or elementary subject specialist.</li> <li>• May have two levels (e.g., TRT I and II; MRT I and II), based on continued performance and commitment to team role.</li> <li>• Earns a pay supplement.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Master Team Reach Teacher (MRT)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In addition to Team Reach Teacher duties, does one or both of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assists MCL II with leadership of large team;</li> <li>• Reaches far more students than other teachers (more class periods in secondary school; more students in elementary).</li> <li>• Demonstrate evidence that the teacher has exceeded expected student growth based on three years of teacher evaluation data as calculated by the State Board of Education.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <hr/> <p><b>Team Reach Teacher (TRT)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mastery of teaching skills evidenced by a track record of “effective” rating, at least.</li> </ul>

**Job Responsibilities of Multi-Classroom Teachers and Team Reach Teachers**

This section includes for the two types of advanced roles being created: a) a table overview of the job responsibilities, weighting of the responsibilities during instructional hours, and qualitative and quantitative evaluation measures, and b) a more detailed description of each job responsibility with rationale and references to research.

**Multi-Classroom Leader Job Responsibilities:  
Alignment to RFP Approved Responsibilities, Weighting of Responsibilities,  
and Types of Measures for Each Responsibility**

<b>Job Responsibility</b>	<b>Alignment with Approved Responsibilities in the RFP</b>	<b>Percent of Total Contract Hours (1,544)</b>	<b>Percent of Total Instructional Hours (1,025)</b>	<b>Evaluation Measure (Qualitative or Quantitative)</b>
<b>1) Planning and Preparation</b>	B	20%		Observations and team feedback (Qualitative)
<b>2) Classroom Environment</b>	B	5%		Observations (Qualitative)
<b>3) Instruction</b>	A and B	46%	70% *	Student assessment results, including EVAAS (Quantitative)
<b>4) Develop Team Teachers</b>	B	24%		Student assessment results, including EVAAS (Quantitative)
<b>5) Professional Responsibility</b>	B	5%		Feedback and Observation, Artifacts (Qualitative)
* In accordance with Session Law 2018-5 Section 7.9, the teacher-leader will be responsible for instruction in the classroom 70% of the instructional day. Of the 1,544 hours in a teacher contract year, 1,025 are instructional hours. Multi-Classroom Leaders will contribute to instructional activity at least 70 percent of those instructional hours, equal to 717.5 hours per year. This amounts to 46 percent of all contract hours.				

**Description and Rationale for each Multi-Classroom Leader Job Responsibility**

## 1) Planning and Preparation

Research indicates that teachers who effectively plan for instruction and have high classroom standards are able to follow a lesson plan while continuously adjusting it to fit the needs of different students and respond to individual student performance.<sup>2</sup> Less effective teachers often have a difficult time responding to the individual needs of students, creating a one-size-fits all approach to instruction.<sup>3</sup> Through effective planning and preparation, Multi-Classroom Leaders:

- Set high expectations of achievement that are ambitious and measurable for all students taught by team
- Establish methods and create instructional tools and materials that team teachers use in all classrooms
- Set direction, verbally and with tools and materials, that clarify content and teaching process
- Lead team to:
  - plan backward to align all lessons, activities, and assessments
  - design assessments that accurately assess student progress
  - monitor and analyze student assessment data to inform enriched instruction by teacher
  - design instruction that is enriched (developing higher-order thinking skills) and personalized (reflecting learning levels and interests of individual students)

## 2) Classroom Environment

Recent research on factors associated with student growth found that school-level

conduct management and “academic press” were both positive and statistically significant predictors of value added.<sup>4</sup> Academic press occurs when teachers challenge students and control classrooms to achieve rigor, respect, order, and persistently on-task behaviors. Multi-Classroom Leaders contribute to these key conditions in the classroom by leading their teams to:

- hold students accountable for high expectations of behavior and engagement that are ambitious and measurable,
- create physical classroom environments conducive to collaborative and individual learning, and
- establish a culture of respect, enthusiasm, and rapport.

### **3) Instruction**

Research shows that when effective teachers prioritize instruction and student learning as the central purpose of schooling, they communicate a dedication to student learning that students reflect in their behavior and studies. Additionally, quality of instruction has been found to be positively associated with student learning.<sup>5</sup> To ensure that students taught by their teams benefit from effective instruction, Multi-Classroom Leaders:

- identify and address individual students’ social, emotional, and behavioral learning needs and barriers
- identify and address individual students’ development of organizational and time-management skills
- use small-group and individual instruction to personalize and tailor instruction to individual needs
- communicate with students and keep them informed of their progress

- invest students in their learning using a variety of influence techniques
- incorporate questioning and discussion in student learning
- hold students accountable for ambitious, measurable standards of academic achievement

#### **4) Develop Team Teachers**

Research using data from the New Teacher Center’s Teaching, Empowering, Leading and Learning (TELL) Survey has shown that teachers who work in more supportive environments are more effective at raising student achievement on standardized tests than teachers who work in less supportive environments.<sup>6</sup> Opportunity Culture advanced roles provide the daily job-embedded professional learning that teachers need to support improvement in their practice. Multi-Classroom Leaders develop team teachers by:

- modeling instructional tasks to aid team development,
- clarifying and adjusting team members’ roles and provide feedback, developmental advice, and assignments to develop their effectiveness,
- evaluating team members for potential role changes, and for increasing job opportunities for team teachers who are ready to advance (to new or more complex roles),
- working with principal to dismiss team members who do not meet the leader’s standard, and
- participating in and facilitating professional development opportunities at school.

#### **5) Professional Responsibilities**

Instructional coaches, while widely used to support student learning, typically do not have direct responsibility for student outcomes. For example, in a recent survey one-third

of instructional coaches indicated that they did not feel responsible for the performance and growth of the teachers they work with, and nearly two-thirds did not feel accountable for their outcomes.<sup>7</sup> By contrast, Multi-Classroom Leaders are invested in the academic outcomes of all students taught by their team and have the authority to direct their team members to achieve the best outcomes for students. Multi-Classroom Leaders:

- assume responsibility for all students taught directly and by teachers on their team,
- solicit and eagerly receive feedback from supervisor and team members to improve professional skills,
- lead team to maintain regular communication with families, and work collaboratively with them to design learning both at home and at school, and to encourage a home life conducive to learning success,
- organize and schedule team time to ensure alignment of instructional vision and delivery in all classrooms, and to troubleshoot students' persistent learning challenges,
- determine how students spend instructional time based on instructional skills and content knowledge of teachers in team,
- allocate instructional process elements (lesson planning, large-group instruction, small-group instruction, individual interventions, data analysis, grading, etc.) among team of teachers based on teacher strengths, content knowledge, and professional development goals, and
- allocate non-instructional administrative duties among team of teachers.

**Team Reach Teachers:  
Alignment to RFP Approved Responsibilities, Weighting of Responsibilities,  
and Types of Measures for Each Responsibility**

<b>Job Responsibility</b>	<b>Alignment with Approved Responsibilities in the RFP</b>	<b>Percent of Total Contract Hours (1,544)</b>	<b>Percent of Total Instructional Hours (1,025)</b>	<b>Evaluation Measure: Qualitative or Quantitative</b>
<b>1) Planning and Preparation</b>	A	20%		Qualitative
<b>2) Classroom Environment</b>	A	5%		Qualitative
<b>3) Instruction</b>	A	55%	83% *	Quantitative
<b>4) Manage Facilitation of Learning Activities by other Adults</b>	A	10%		Quantitative
<b>5) Professional Responsibility</b>	A	10%		Qualitative
* In accordance with Session Law 2018-5 Section 7.9, the teacher-leader will be responsible for instruction in the classroom 70% of the instructional day. Of the 1,544 hours in a teacher contract year, 1,025 are instructional hours. Team Reach Teachers will contribute to instructional activity at least 83 percent of those instructional hours, equal to 849 hours per year. This amounts to 55 percent of all contract hours.				

**Description and Rationale for each Team Reach Teacher Job Responsibility**

Working on a Multi-Classroom Leader’s team, Team Reach Teachers assume responsibility for an increased number of students, using technology-delivered content and/or paraprofessionals to reduce instructional size with the teacher at any given time.

**1) Planning and Preparation**

To effectively reach a greater number of students with excellent teaching despite having less time per student, the Team Reach Teacher must plan activities that promote engagement and provide feedback loops, even without direct interaction between the student and the Team Reach Teacher.

- Set high expectations of achievement that are ambitious and measurable for students,
- Plan backward to align all lessons, activities, assessments,
- Determine how students spend instructional time (i.e., digital software for knowledge and skill acquisition, large and small groups with teacher, project-based learning, individual interventions with tutors, etc.),
- Design in-person instruction that is enriched (developing higher-order thinking skills) and personalized (reflecting learning levels and interests of individual students), and
- Design assessments that accurately assess student progress and/or incorporate digital assessments.

## **2) Classroom Environment**

The Team Reach Teacher must create a classroom environment that facilitates learning and inquiry, even without the intervention or presence of the Team Reach Teacher.

- Hold students accountable for high expectations of behavior and engagement that are ambitious and measurable,
- Create physical classroom environments conducive to collaborative and individual learning, and
- Establish a culture of respect, enthusiasm, and rapport.

## **3) Instruction**

The Team Reach Teacher devotes an increased amount of time to instruction and reaches more students with his or her excellent instruction through strategic use of time and student grouping with a paraprofessional and digitally delivered content.

- Hold students accountable for ambitious, measurable standards of academic achievement,
- Identify and address individual students' social, emotional, and behavioral learning needs and barriers,
- Identify and address individual students' development of organizational and time-management skills,
- Invest students in their learning using a variety of influence techniques
- Incorporate questioning and discussion in student learning,
- Incorporate small-group and individual instruction to personalize and tailor instruction to individual needs, and
- Communicate with students and keep them informed of their progress.

#### **4) Manage Facilitation of Learning Activities by Other Adults**

The Team Reach Teacher will collaborate with paraprofessionals to ensure effective student supervision and learning occur even in the absence of the Team Reach Teacher. This strategic use of time enables the Team Reach Teacher to spend time on the most high-leverage instructional activities, while paraprofessionals facilitate non-instructional responsibilities and digitally delivered introductions to new material and skills practice.

- Monitor and analyze student data from assessments to inform enriched instruction by teacher, follow-up tutoring by tutor(s), and changes in digital instruction,
- Provide tutor(s) with student groupings and specific instructional assignments for follow-up tutoring, and
- Develop systems and processes for paraprofessional.

## 5) Professional Responsibilities

Team Reach Teachers will work on Multi-Classroom Leader teams to create time for planning, data analysis, and coaching. Team Reach Teachers teach more students than usual and work to continually improve their practice. Working at the cutting edge of their field, they must take initiative to identify and develop skills and dispositions necessary for success in this new context.

- Solicit and eagerly receive feedback from supervisor and team members to improve professional skills,
- Maintain regular communication with families, and work collaboratively with them to design learning both at home and at school, and to encourage a home life conducive to learning success,
- Collaborate with other teachers, tutors, and lab monitor(s) to analyze student data, group students, teach, and assign interventions, and
- Participate in professional development opportunities at school.

### **Criteria and Selection for Advance Teaching Roles**

Halifax County Schools will hold one or more informational sessions to share information about the roles being offered and the hiring process with all interested teachers and members of the public. Sessions will include basic descriptions about the roles and salary supplements that will be available and will describe the application requirements and process. The district's designated Opportunity Culture design lead will share frequently asked questions with responses.

Selection for the Multi-Classroom Leader and Team Reach Teacher advanced roles will be based on a set of weighted criteria, including 1) prior evidence of high-progress student outcomes in the relevant subjects, 2) knowledge of subject matter being taught, 3) Bachelor's

degree and valid teaching certificate, 4) experience successfully leading and managing a team of adults to accomplish goals, and 5) evidence of competencies needed to perform the role. **See Appendix B (Multi-Classroom Leader) and Appendix C (Team Reach Teachers) for detailed weighting and rationale for each of the selection criteria.**

Halifax County Schools will conduct behavioral event interviews to determine if a candidate has the competencies to excel in either the Multi-Classroom Leader or Team Reach Teacher advanced roles. In the early 1970s, Harvard University Psychologist David McClelland began using the term “competency” to refer to the underlying patterns of thinking, feeling, acting, or speaking that cause a person to be successful in a job or role. McClelland subsequently developed the Behavioral Event Interview (BEI), a highly structured interview that focuses on the characteristics of the person being interviewed rather than on the work content.<sup>8</sup> Halifax County Schools will use the BEI to assess candidates for evidence that they exhibit a sufficient combination of the needed competencies for each advanced role offered.

### **Critical Competencies for Multi-Classroom Leaders**

<b>Critical Competency</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>Achievement</b>	The drive and actions to set challenging goals and reach a high standard of performance despite barriers.
<b>Monitoring and Directiveness</b>	The drive and actions to set clear expectations and hold others accountable for performance.
<b>Planning Ahead</b>	A bias toward planning in order to reach goals and avoid problems.
<b>Impact and Influence</b>	Acting with the purpose of influencing what other people think and do.
<b>Teamwork</b>	The ability and actions needed to work with others to achieve shared goals.
<b>Developing Others</b>	Influence with the specific intent to increase the short- and long-term effectiveness of another person.
<b>Flexibility</b>	The ability to adapt one’s approach to the requirements of a situation and to change tactics.

## Critical Competencies for Team Reach Teachers

Critical Competency	Definition
<b>Achievement</b>	The drive and actions to set challenging goals and reach a high standard of performance despite barriers.
<b>Planning Ahead</b>	A bias toward planning in order to reach goals and avoid problems.
<b>Impact and Influence</b>	Acting with the purpose of influencing what other people think and do.
<b>Teamwork</b>	The ability and actions needed to work with others to achieve shared goals.
<b>Developing Others</b>	Influence with the specific intent to increase the short- and long-term effectiveness of another person.

Halifax County Schools will use the below general weighting when assessing each of selection factors for Multi-Classroom Leader candidates and Team Reach Teacher candidates. The district-level design team will determine more specific definitions to apply to these weightings, such as the number of years a teacher must have achieved above average growth, and whether partial credit will be awarded for any criteria.

### **Salary Supplements**

Halifax County Schools will design two levels of Multi-Classroom Leader and Team Reach Teacher Roles, each with designated salary supplements. Here we provide possible ranges of those supplements as seen in other districts that have implemented Opportunity Culture roles. However, because the supplements will be paid only from existing funds, actual amounts will depend on locally available dollars. *One of the first tasks of the district-level design process will be financial modeling to determine supplement amounts that are sustainable and competitive with pay offered by surrounding districts.*

**Example Pay Ranges for Opportunity Culture Advanced Teaching Roles  
(to be determined during the design phase)**

	Description	Potential Pay Supplements Per Analysis of Existing Opportunity Culture Sites
<b>Multi-Classroom Leader II</b>	Leads 6-8 teachers	25%-30% of state avg. salary
<b>Multi-Classroom Leader I</b>	Leads 2-5 teachers	15-20% of state avg. salary
<b>Master Team Reach Teacher</b>	Teaches more students than typical, may assist MCL II	8-12% of state avg. salary
<b>Team Reach Teachers</b>	Teaches more students than typical	2-5% of state avg. salary

**Voluntary Relinquishment of an Advanced Teaching Role**

Should a Multi-Classroom Leader or Team Reach Teacher relinquish his or her role and associated duties, the removal of that title will not be considered a demotion under Part 3 of Article 22 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes. Upon relinquishment of the role, the teacher will no longer be paid associated supplement and will only be paid the salary applicable to that individual on the State teacher salary schedule and any other local supplements that would otherwise apply to the classroom teacher's compensation.

**Implementation Plan**

By the end of the grant period, all ten schools in Halifax County Schools will be implementing advanced teaching roles. Halifax County Schools will identify a district design team to set the vision and parameters for Opportunity Culture in the district, select schools to participate in each design cohort, and make critical decisions and systems changes to support new teacher roles. The district design team will include a mix of excellent teachers, principals, and district staff crucial to implementation (a senior director from human resources, finance, IT, and the accountability office)

The district design team will be led by a district staff member who dedicates a significant percentage of his/her time to oversee the implementation of the Opportunity Culture Principles [see inset] and related changes needed to build an Opportunity Culture.

This group—for which the district team leader will assign roles and responsibilities—will have the authority to oversee key decisions and activities including:

- \* Establishing the overall vision for the initiative
- \* Identifying potential schools to pilot the effort
- \* Communicating the proposed approach with school leaders, and sharing relevant district-level policies (e.g., design parameters) with schools
- \* Working directly with school design teams to monitor progress of model development, including staffing structures, compensation, scheduling, technology, and communication
- \* Problem-solving with schools around design and implementation challenges
- \* Identifying necessary resources for implementation
- \* Identifying gaps and barriers in district-level practices, such as human resource systems, budgeting, and others identified in the planning process, and organizing changes to them
- \* Monitoring progress and acting to ensure success in design, implementation, and scale

The work of the district design team will be substantial and requires careful planning for implementation in several key areas, outlined in the below table. In each area, Halifax County Schools has designated a district lead. This lead will draw on technical assistance provided by Public Impact to tackle the work by during the design year and early implementation years. This

### **OPPORTUNITY CULTURE PRINCIPLES**

*Teams of teachers and school leaders must choose and tailor models to:*

- 1. Reach more students with excellent teachers and their teams**
- 2. Pay teachers more for extending their reach**
- 3. Fund pay within regular budgets**
- 4. Provide protected in-school time and clarity about how to use it for planning, collaboration, and development**
- 5. Match authority and accountability to each person's responsibilities**



table is not comprehensive; additional needs and design team responsibilities will arise during the design process and early-implementation phases. However, it outlines responsibilities and timeline for each core area of design work that will be undertaken.

**Responsibilities of District Design Team: Dec 2018 – May 2019**

Activity	District Lead/ Team Members
<b>District-level design work</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure initiative meets Opportunity Culture Principles and needs of students, teachers, and community</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Clarify district design parameters</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure district leadership commitment</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Advocate for needed policy changes</li> </ul>	Dr. Christopher Weikart, Executive Director of Human Resources  Mrs. Tyrana Battle, Assistant Superintendent
<b>School-level design work</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Help district choose schools for pilot and each scale-up phase</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Organize and facilitate school-level design teams</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Facilitate school teams to select/tailor models and develop implementation plans, within district parameters</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Document the school-level implementation plan (transitional steps, roles, timing, costs, etc.)</li> </ul>	Dr. Christopher Weikart, Executive Director of Human Resources  Ms. Gail Powers, Executive Director of Instructional Services
<b>Technology planning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Determine existing technology resources and capabilities</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Advise on new technology resources and capabilities</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Incorporate new digital instruction and other technology tools into school designs</li> </ul>	Mrs. Tyrana Battle, Assistant Superintendent  Ms. Shelia Lowe, Director of Technology.
<b>Human resource management</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Set compensation ranges for reach-extended roles</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Lead recruitment, hiring, and internal selection for new positions</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Oversee training, development, evaluation, and career path(s) design</li> </ul>	Dr. Christopher Weikart, Executive Director of Human Resources
<b>Financial resource allocations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Determine available funding for transition to reach extension models</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure pay is funded with per-pupil funding</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Make policy recommendations for sustainably higher pay at larger scale</li> </ul>	Ms. Lynn Harrold, Chief Finance Officer
<b>Communications work</b>	Ms. Chatesha Dickens, Public

<input type="checkbox"/> Develop key messages and tools <input type="checkbox"/> Elicit input from stakeholders <input type="checkbox"/> Deliver or organize communications	Information Officer
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As noted above, school design teams will be established at each school involved in an Opportunity Culture cohort. Principals and school design teams develop staffing and scheduling plans that adhere to the five Opportunity Culture principles and any parameters established by Halifax County Schools. School design teams undertake a 9-point design process:

1. **Vision.** Describe how students and teachers will benefit from a school model based on advanced roles
2. **School and Staffing Model.** Determine roles to be added or exchange, a staffing transition plan, and a summary of the school’s staffing needs
3. **Cost Impact.** Assess the cost impact of stipends to confirm that they are possible within current budgets and are budget neutral
4. **Talent.** Establish a plan to attract, cultivate, and identify talent through recruitment and hiring, staff training and development, and evaluation methods
5. **Time.** Develop schedules that allow teacher leaders to work intensively with their teams
6. **Resources.** Identify technology needed to support the new school models
7. **Accountability.** Make changes needed to enable the reporting of student outcomes for teachers in reach roles
8. **Teacher and Community Engagement.** Develop materials and outreach to engage teachers, parents, and community
9. **Improvement Process Planning.** Assign responsibility for monitoring and improving implementation at school level at defined times

This work will be accomplished through a series of four design sessions that will be facilitated by Public Impact in partnership with the designated district lead, Dr. Christopher Weikart. Public Impact works closely with design team leads to customize these sessions for schools and maintains regular contact between the sessions to help design teams progress toward their decision points.

### **Financial Sustainability**

Sustainability is one of the five Opportunity Culture Principles and sets these advanced roles apart from many other teacher leadership and compensation reform initiatives. In an Opportunity Culture, district and school design teams must identify current funds that can be allocated to advanced role teacher pay supplements. This is difficult work but creates advanced roles that last. Advanced roles with staying power allow current teachers to aspire to the roles and changes the way prospective teachers perceive the profession.

Halifax County Schools will explore strategies being used by current Opportunity Culture sites across the country to pay teachers more within budget. Options for fund reallocation include:

- **Replace a vacant teaching position with a paraprofessional.** Rather than relying on substitutes to fill an adult role by supervising students in the absence of a permanent teacher, this strategy fills the slot with a paraprofessional who will support a multi-classroom teacher and his or her team. The paraprofessional saves teachers time and enables schedule changes that let teachers collaborate and improve during school hours. This activity can include supervising digital learning and other learning activities, handling the team's administrative paperwork and routine instructional tasks, and grading

against clear rubrics. The difference in labor costs is reallocated to the multi-classroom leader and reach team teachers as salary supplements.

- **Reduce the number of supplemental non-classroom specialist positions.** Leaving all special education, English language learner, and family support positions untouched, most districts and schools can still save funds by returning academic specialists to classrooms, in higher-paid multi-classroom leader or team reach teacher roles.
- **Reallocate other spending.** Districts can allocate funds currently used for professional development (i.e. Title I funding) to enhance the pay of multi-classroom leaders, whose responsibilities include developing teams of teachers.

**Measurable Objectives and Evaluation**

The main objectives of Opportunity Culture are to improve instruction within schools and dramatically improve student academic growth in core subjects. During the 2018-19 school year, Halifax County Schools will design, recruit for, and hire teachers to assume advanced roles as Multi-Classroom Leaders and Team Reach Teachers. Outcomes to be measured during the design year include the impact on human resource functions, such as size and characteristics of the candidate pool and the district’s ability to fill open positions. These are measures of the district’s ability to attract desirable candidates and compete for talent with surrounding districts.

**Opportunity Culture Outcomes to be Measured: Design Year, 2018-2019**

Factor to be Measured	Description	Target Outcome
Size of applicant pool	Number of qualified applicants for each Opportunity Culture teacher leadership position	6
Strength of candidate pool	Characteristics of candidates for the Opportunity Culture teacher leader positions	Qualitatively stronger
Total number of unfilled positions	Number of vacant positions that remain at the end of the district’s hiring effort for the 2019-20 school year	Fewer than 5 positions unfilled district wide.

Multi-Classroom Leaders and Team Reach Teachers will be in place to improve instruction after the 2018-19 school year. For this three-year grant period, Halifax County Schools would continue to report human resource outcomes as noted above, plus additional measures related to teacher perceptions and student learning.

**Outcomes to be Measured: Initial Implementation of Opportunity Culture 2019-21**

<b>Factor to be Measured</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Target Outcome</b>
Size of applicant pool	Number of applicants for each new teacher leadership position	6
Strength of candidate pool	Characteristics of candidates for the new teacher leader positions	Qualitatively stronger
Total number of unfilled positions	Number of vacant positions that remain at the end of the district’s hiring effort for the 2017-18 school year	Fewer than 5 positions unfilled district wide.
% of students reached by excellent teachers	Percent of students who have an excellent teacher at the helm of their instruction	33% for schools in their first year, 60% second year (after grant period ends: 80% third year)
% of teachers who feel supported to improve	Percent of teachers and staff at the school who respond positively to survey questions about the new school models (survey includes teachers in the new advanced roles and other teachers and staff in the school)	Three quarters of the questions on the annual OC teacher survey will have favorability rates of at least 85% among multi-classroom leaders and 75% among all teachers involved in OC teams.
Interim measures of academic progress	Data from interim assessments will be analyzed during the school year to gauge academic progress of students, with growth targets set at beginning of each school year	We will set targets for student achievement growth after determining baseline data for the year by each achievement level subgroup to ensure every student is making more than a year’s growth.
% of schools low growth,	When NCDPI releases summative assessment data from the 2019-20 school year (approximately	Rates of low growth that are below the state

meeting growth, and exceeding growth	Sept 2020) we will review reading and math growth data to analyze impact on student learning. We will conduct this analysis again when 2020-21 school year data are available.	average; Rates of high growth that exceed the state average
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### **Communications Strategy and Dissemination Plan**

Opportunity Culture design work engages a variety of roles and perspectives within the school district. Of particular importance is the engagement of teachers in the development of advanced roles and school designs. Involvement of teachers helps ensure that essential instructional challenges are tackled, time is carved out in the school day to make the design work, and educators who might find themselves working on a team led by a new multi-classroom leader are invested in the team-based model. The communications plan for district design leads and principals engages all staff to learn about Opportunity Culture design at the beginning of the effort.

Parents and community partners also need a chance to learn about and react to the design work being undertaken and to raise any changes they hope can be realized during planning and implementation. For example, should community members express interest in providing more volunteer support within the school, school design teams could consider opportunities to incorporate that engagement within their unique model.

The below table outlines how Halifax County Schools will share key messages and will gather input from students, parents, school partners, community groups, and local media.

School Community Member	Share These Key Opportunity Culture Messages	Shared By:	Gather Feedback Through:	Resources to Share
<b>Teachers and Staff</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advanced roles will offer multiple pathways for teachers to advance and develop their careers without leaving teaching</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> District design lead  <input type="checkbox"/> Principal	<input type="checkbox"/> Q&A during informational sessions  <input type="checkbox"/> Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Introductory motion graphic</a></li> <li><a href="#">Opportunity Culture Principles</a></li> <li><a href="#">Where is this</a></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advanced role teachers will be responsible for more students and will earn pay supplements</li> <li>Teams of teachers will gain job-embedded professional learning and increased collaboration time</li> </ul>		meetings to answer questions	<a href="#">happening?</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Teacher Blogs</a></li> <li><a href="#">YouTube Channel of teacher videos</a></li> </ul>
<b>Students</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How teaching and classes change: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-roles and people in them</li> <li>-how learning time changes</li> </ul> </li> <li>Benefits for students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-teachers all aiming for great</li> <li>-meet your needs better</li> <li>-more adults to help you</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Principal <input type="checkbox"/> Teachers on school design team <input type="checkbox"/> Teachers explain to their classes each new year	<input type="checkbox"/> Q&A in classrooms <input type="checkbox"/> Social media <input type="checkbox"/> Individual meetings to answer questions <input type="checkbox"/> Student assemblies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Customize communications for ages of students and how learning changes for them</li> </ul>
<b>Parents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The problems our students face</li> <li>A new solution: OC</li> <li>Benefits for students and teachers</li> <li>Specifics: Which classes, grades, and subjects are affected each year</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Principal <input type="checkbox"/> Teachers on school design team <input type="checkbox"/> OC Teachers	<input type="checkbox"/> Q&A in parent meetings (e.g., Curriculum Nights) <input type="checkbox"/> Social media <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletters <input type="checkbox"/> Individual meetings to answer questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Introduction for Parents</a></li> <li><a href="#">Opportunity Culture Talking Points for Superintendents and Implementation Leaders with FAQs and Responses</a></li> </ul>
<b>School partners/ community groups</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Problems our students face</li> <li>The challenges and limits our teachers face</li> <li>A new solution: OC</li> <li>Benefits</li> <li>Timing/process</li> <li>Where else this is happening/what other OC teachers think</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Principal <input type="checkbox"/> School design team <input type="checkbox"/> OC Teachers	<input type="checkbox"/> Q&A in group meetings <input type="checkbox"/> Social media <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter/e-blasts <input type="checkbox"/> Individual meetings to answer questions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Opportunity Culture for Teaching and Learning: Introduction</a></li> <li><a href="#">Opportunity Culture “Voices on Video”</a></li> </ul>
<b>Media</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See “school partners” box above</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Principal <input type="checkbox"/> Teachers	<b>Share Information Through:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Press release	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Opportunity Culture for Teaching and</a></li> </ul>

		on school design team <input type="checkbox"/> OC Teachers	<input type="checkbox"/> Social media <input type="checkbox"/> Visits to OC schools	<a href="#">Learning: Introduction Opportunity Culture “Voices on Video”</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
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Halifax County Schools Opportunity Culture lead and principals from each participating school will conduct communications outreach and information dissemination along the following timeline:

**December 2018–February 2019**

***Introduce Opportunity Culture to whole staff***

- Share introductory slide deck, Opportunity Culture motion graphic, and video of educators voices in current sites implementing Opportunity Culture.
- Solicit questions and communicate the benefits of the initiative and teacher inclusion in the design process.
- Email and/or hand out *Opportunity Culture for Teaching and Learning: Introduction* to all staff members.

***Select school design team and craft school design***

- Principal identifies and selects key staff for design team—include school leaders, excellent teachers, key influencers.
- Describe the design team’s role and schedule.

**February–March 2019**

***Share and solicit feedback on school’s Opportunity Culture plans after draft design is ready***

- Before completing full draft, share benefits, get feedback from teachers on early work on OC vision, staffing plan.

- During design work, meet with *any person who asks* about the design process. Listen. Share the potential benefits.
- After full draft plan is ready, make short presentation to whole staff.
- Re-communicate Opportunity Culture goals and the Opportunity Culture Principles.
- Explain design process and the draft staffing plan. Explain how plan fits each Opportunity Culture Principle and school's larger vision and goals, and how it can benefit students and teachers.
- Solicit feedback from all, possibly through a short online survey.
- Identify concerns and questions and meet with individuals to address concerns.
- Thank staff in email for their time and invite further feedback. Incorporate feedback as design team decides.

### **March–April 2019**

#### ***Share and advertise new Opportunity Culture roles internally and externally for recruiting***

- Share with all staff:
  - Slide deck showing next year's staffing plan and staffing plan after full implementation
  - Official job postings (from HR) or standard descriptions of roles, qualifications, and how to apply for all
  - Other recruitment material as needed—e.g. video, brochure—available in the Opportunity Culture Toolkit
- Principal or assistant principal also communicates with high-potential internal candidates:
  - Schedule one-on-one meetings to discuss potential fit with open positions
  - Personally invite eligible staff to apply for Opportunity Culture positions

- Share Opportunity Culture messages in interviews with applicants, in coordination with Human Resources

### **April 2019–Ongoing**

#### ***Inform parents, keep staff informed about improvements, and respond to any concerns***

- Communicate changes to parents at end of school year and beginning of next. Use the parent introduction tool.
- Meet with parents and staff if/as any concerns arise. Continue one-on-one meetings as needed to address concerns.
- Keep design team or teacher-leaders engaged throughout implementation to improve every year.

### **Evidence of Need**

Halifax County Schools serves 2,566 students (PreK-12<sup>th</sup> grades) in 10 schools within highly impacted rural Tier I county as identified by North Carolina Department of Commerce. The student racial/ethnic breakdown consists of: African-American-84.4%, American Indian-5.6%, White-4.3%, Hispanic-3.7%, other groups-<2%. Halifax County Schools participates in the School Nutrition program and 100% of the student population qualifies for free lunch. Many of the students are struggling academically and it has negatively impacted the school system. According to the NCDPI website, the cohort graduation rate for 2016-17 in Halifax County Schools is 74.3% compared to the state average of 86.5%. The school system has seven of its ten schools identified on the Low Performing School list and overall proficiency rate of 39 percent. In addition to student achievement concerns, the school district has experienced 29 percent teacher turnover rate and certified staff consists of 53 lateral entry teachers.

## **Sharing with Districts Across North Carolina**

Halifax County Schools will work with Public Impact to gather and analyze data that will be added to the Opportunity Culture Dashboard. This resource makes publicly available basic details across Opportunity Culture sites, such as the size of pay supplements, number of teachers in advanced roles and led by multi-classroom leaders, academic growth data, and survey data from teachers and staff in Opportunity Culture schools. The Dashboard is a good resource for districts that are considering Opportunity Culture design, helping them reach out to current sites that share similar characteristics in terms of size, state policy context, etc.

During year two of implementation, Halifax County Schools will be prepared to host site visits from district and school leaders who are interested in seeing Multi-Classroom Leaders in action and exploring how Opportunity Culture advanced roles could improve outcomes in their own context.

**ATTACHMENT A: BUDGET**

Budget Item	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-2024
Technical assistance to design and implement Opportunity Culture roles	\$155,000.00	\$125,000.00	125,000.00	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
Substitute teachers for design sessions (including FICA)	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00		\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Travel expenses	\$2,500.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00			
Summer workshop expenses	\$2,000.00			\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Indirect Costs	\$5,000.00					
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$175,000.00</b>	<b>\$138,000.00</b>	<b>\$130,000.00</b>	<b>\$65,000.00</b>	<b>\$65,000.00</b>	<b>\$65,000.00</b>

**Budget Narrative**

**Technical assistance to design and implement Opportunity Culture roles.** This assistance includes facilitation of district and school design sessions, training in Behavioral Event Interviewing technique, recruitment and selection support, role-specific summer training and professional learning series within the school year, support visits during implementation, redesign sessions to strengthen implementation, and data collection and analysis. SY 2020-21 and beyond will include design of systems to ensure Multi-Classroom Leader teams provide essential job-embedded professional learning for lateral entry teachers.

**Substitute teachers for design sessions.** Necessary to cover teacher classes as they participate in design sessions and a site visit to an existing Opportunity Culture district.

**Travel expenses.** To cover mileage and hotel for individuals who travel to site visits, joint design sessions with other districts, and/or training sessions.

**Summer workshop expenses.** To cover the cost of developing sustainable materials and modules for professional development and onboarding of Opportunity Culture Teacher Leader Roles. SY 2021-22 and beyond will include professional development for lateral entry teachers.

**Indirect-Costs.** To cover administrative costs with recruiting, purchasing, and accounts payable associated with administering the grant.

## ALLOWABLE SUPPORT MATERIALS

### Appendix A: Committee Members for District Plan Design

Committee Member Name	Position
Dr. Christopher Weikart	Executive Director of Human Resources
Dr. Eric Cunningham	Superintendent
Ms. Tyrana Battle	Assistant Superintendent of Administration & Accountability
Ms. Gail Powers	Executive Director of Instructional Services
Ms. Lynn Harrold	Chief Finance Officer
Ms. Shelia Lowe	Director of Technology
Dr. Pam Chamblee	Executive Director of School Transformation
Dr. Gregory Monroe	Principal, Southeast Collegiate Preparatory High School
Mr. Marcus Jones	Principal, Aurelian Springs Institute of Global Learning

**Appendix B: Examples of Multi-Classroom Leader Weighted Selection Criteria with Rationale**

<b>Qualification</b>	<b>Alignment with “Approved Qualifications” in RFP</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Qualitative/ Quantitative Measure</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
<p>Prior evidence of high-progress student outcomes in the relevant subjects (in the top 25% compared to other teachers in a state or on national tests) or, at entry level, evidence of superior prior academic achievements, and organizing and influence skills indicating very high potential to perform at this level. Entry-level teacher works under close supervision of a high-progress teacher until similar student gains have been demonstrated</p>	<p>Evidence that the teacher has exceeded expected student growth based on three years of teacher evaluation data as calculated by the State Board of Education</p> <p align="center">-OR-</p> <p>Equivalent demonstrated mastery of teaching skills as required by the new local compensation model</p> <p align="center">-AND-</p> <p>A rating of at least accomplished on each of the Teacher Evaluation Standards 1-5 on the North Carolina Teacher Evaluation instrument or the equivalent on an out-of-state evaluation system.</p>	<p>60%<sup>+</sup></p>	<p>Quantitative</p>	<p>The ability to dramatically improve student learning outcomes is essential to success in a teacher-leadership role. However, success in a traditional classroom environment does not ensure comparable performance with additional responsibility in a different context.<sup>9</sup></p>
<p>Knowledge of subject matter</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Disqualifier</p>	<p>Qualitative</p>	<p>Teacher-leaders must have content mastery as they</p>

being taught		– applicant must demonstrate to be considered		will often be required to step-in to support team teachers instructionally, either in the middle of a lesson, or during a planning or reflection meeting. Teacher-leaders will be need to be fluent in their content area(s) to provide this support in the immediate timeframe that it’s required.
Bachelor’s degree and Valid teaching certificate	N/A	Disqualifier – applicant must demonstrate to be considered	Quantitative	Teacher-leaders must hold and maintain the minimum qualifications to be classroom teachers, as their roles reflect the responsibilities of a traditional classroom teacher, elevated in terms of impact and responsibility.
Experience successfully leading and managing a team of adults to accomplish goals	Equivalent demonstrated mastery of teaching skills as required by the new local compensation model, as demonstrated by behavioral event interviews	40%	Quantitative (Outcome measures) & Qualitative (Reference checks)	Teacher-leaders must not only successfully impact students through their own teaching, but also through the teaching of their team members. Prior experience leading a team successfully is the best predictor of future potential for success. <sup>10</sup> however, many successful teacher-leader candidates may only have had limited opportunities to demonstrate leadership. As this competency will receive the most support in the advanced teacher role program, this qualification is weighted less strongly than evidence of prior success with students.
National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certification (preferred status applicant, not required)	Advanced certifications, such as National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certification, or a master's degree in the area in which the classroom teacher is licensed and teaching	10% (Bonus)	Quantitative	Research suggests that more effective teachers successfully complete National Board certification. <sup>11</sup> Rather than require prospective teacher-leaders to complete National Board Certification, this qualification is treated as a preference. Teachers not holding National Board Certification are therefore not disadvantaged.

**Appendix C: Examples of Team Reach Teacher Weighted Selection Criteria with Rationale**

<b>Qualification</b>	<b>Alignment with “Approved Qualifications” in RFP</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Qualitative/ Quantitative Measure</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
<p>Prior evidence of high-progress student outcomes in the relevant subjects (in the top 25% compared to other teachers in a state or on national tests) or, at entry level, evidence of superior prior academic achievements, and organizing and influence skills indicating very high potential to perform at this level. Entry-level teacher works under close supervision of a high-progress teacher until similar student gains have been demonstrated</p>	<p>Evidence that the teacher has exceeded expected student growth based on three years of teacher evaluation data as calculated by the State Board of Education</p> <p align="center">-OR-</p> <p>Equivalent demonstrated mastery of teaching skills as required by the new local compensation model</p> <p align="center">-AND-</p> <p>A rating of at least accomplished on each of the Teacher Evaluation Standards 1-5 on the North Carolina Teacher Evaluation instrument or the equivalent on an out-of-state evaluation system.</p>	<p align="center">100%</p>	<p align="center">Quantitative</p>	<p>The ability to dramatically improve student learning outcomes is essential to success in a teacher-leadership role. However, success in a traditional classroom environment does not ensure comparable performance with additional responsibility in a different context.<sup>12</sup></p>
<p>Knowledge of subject matter</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Disqualifier</p>	<p>Qualitative</p>	<p>Teacher-leaders must have content mastery as they</p>

being taught		– applicant must demonstrate to be considered		will often be required to step-in to support team teachers instructionally, either in the middle of a lesson, or during a planning or reflection meeting. Teacher-leaders will be need to be fluent in their content area(s) to provide this support in the immediate timeframe that it’s required.
Bachelor’s degree and Valid teaching certificate	N/A	Disqualifier – applicant must demonstrate	Quantitative	Teacher-leaders must hold and maintain the minimum qualifications to be classroom teachers, as their roles reflect the responsibilities of a traditional classroom teacher, elevated in terms of impact and responsibility.
Demonstrated capacity to take responsibility for teaching additional students using novel methods	Equivalent demonstrated mastery of teaching skills as required by the new local compensation model, as demonstrated by behavioral event interviews	40%	Quantitative (Outcome measures) & Qualitative (Reference checks)	Team Reach Teachers must deliver instruction and also craft learning experiences to be facilitated by a paraprofessional or delivered digitally. Prior experience adapting instructional approaches is the best predictor of future potential for success. However, many Team Reach teachers candidates have had limited opportunities to explore these modalities given limitations of technology, training, and support staff. This competency will receive the most support in the advanced teacher role program, this qualification is weighted less strongly than evidence of prior success with students.
National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certification (preferred status applicant, not required)	Advanced certifications, such as National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certification, or a master's degree in the area in which the classroom teacher is licensed and teaching	10% (Bonus)	Quantitative	Research suggests that more effective teachers successfully complete National Board certification. <sup>13</sup> Rather than require prospective teacher-leaders to complete National Board Certification, this qualification is treated as a preference. Teachers not holding National Board Certification are therefore not disadvantaged.

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<sup>1</sup> Backes, B. & Hansen, M. (2018). Reaching Further and Learning More? Evaluating Public Impact's Opportunity Culture Initiative. CALDER Working Paper No. 181.

<https://caldercenter.org/publications/reaching-further-and-learning-more-evaluating-public-impacts-opportunity-culture>

<sup>2</sup> Fuchs, D. & Fuchs, LS. (1994). Inclusive schools movement and the radicalization of special education reform. *Exceptional Children*, 60, 294–309.

<sup>3</sup> For example, see Jay, J. K. (2002). Points on a continuum: An expert/novice study of pedagogical reason. *The Professional Educator*, 24(2), 63-74.

<sup>4</sup> Ferguson, R.F. & Hirsch, E. (2014). “How Working Conditions Predict Teaching Quality and Student Outcomes.” In *Designing Teacher Evaluation Systems: New Guidance from the Measures of Effective Teaching Project*. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Retrieved from [http://k12education.gatesfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Designing-Teacher-Evaluation-Systems\\_freePDF.pdf](http://k12education.gatesfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Designing-Teacher-Evaluation-Systems_freePDF.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> Walberg, H. J. (1984). Improving the productivity of America’s schools. *Educational Leadership*, 41(8), 19–27.

<sup>6</sup> For example, see: Kraft, M.A. & Papay, J.P. (2014, Jan. 30). Do supportive professional environments promote teacher development? Explaining heterogeneity in returns to teaching experience. *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*. December 2014 vol. 36 no. 4 476-500.

<sup>7</sup> Bierly, C., Doyle, B., & Smith, A. (2016, January 14). *Transforming schools: How distributed leadership can create more high-performing schools*. Bain & Company. Retrieved from <http://www.bain.com/publications/articles/transforming-schools.aspx>

<sup>8</sup> See McClelland, D.C. (1998). *Identifying Competencies with Behavioral-Event Interviews*. *Psychological Science*. 9,5,(1998), 331–339.

<sup>9</sup> Buckingham, M., & Coffman, C. (2014). *First, break all the rules: What the world's greatest managers do differently*. Simon and Schuster.

<sup>10</sup> See for example: Ouellette, J. A., & Wood, W. (1998). Habit and intention in everyday life: the multiple processes by which past behavior predicts future behavior. *Psychological Bulletin*, 124(1), 54.

<sup>11</sup> Goldhaber, D., & Anthony, E. (2007). Can teacher quality be effectively assessed? National board certification as a signal of effective teaching. *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 89(1), 134-150.

<sup>12</sup> Buckingham, M., & Coffman, C. (2014). *First, break all the rules: What the world's greatest managers do differently*. Simon and Schuster.

<sup>13</sup> Goldhaber, D., & Anthony, E. (2007). Can teacher quality be effectively assessed? National board certification as a signal of effective teaching. *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 89(1), 134-150.