

The Florida and the Islands Regional Comprehensive Center at ETS

MOVING EDUCATION FORWARD



Providing technical assistance and professional development to move education forward

The Florida and the Islands Regional Comprehensive Center (FLICC) serves the state of Florida and the territories of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, providing technical assistance to State Educational Agencies (SEAs). With FLICC's assistance, SEAs build their capacity to:

- support local educational agencies and schools
- improve educational outcomes for all students
- close achievement gaps
- improve the quality of instruction



FLORIDA



Standards Implementation

Working together to realize the new state standards

FLICC championed an effort to implement the new Florida Standards in English language arts and mathematics for underserved rural districts. For the 2015–16 and 2016–17 school years, they targeted algebraic thinking and other specific areas of the new Florida mathematics standards where implementation was weak. As a result, the percentage of students passing the Algebra I end-of-course assessment rose to 60 percent in 2017 — compared to a failure rate of up to 80 percent in 2012.

Rural Equity

Ensuring equal opportunities for impoverished students

FLICC germinated the idea that a focus on rural equity, an Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) priority, was warranted and subsequently partnered with Florida's three rural consortia to plan and implement professional learning focused on rural equity. This technical assistance was designed to help school and district leadership understand rural poverty, why it persists and what can be done to help level the playing field for poor children.

Instructional Leadership

Shaping 21st-century school leaders

Principals, assistant principals, instructional coaches and aspiring leaders took part in a two-year, comprehensive learning network and cohort experience designed to strengthen their instructional leadership capacity. Participants collaborated, learned new skills, refined their practice using improvement science, enacted selected practices and pursued

micro-credentialing in order to become instructional leadership coaches. These leaders, along with regional colleagues, participated in a collaborative learning network using face-to-face training, virtual learning experiences and virtual coaching to develop leadership skills.

“*There was a lot of effort put forth to make sure we were meeting the specific needs of Florida.*”

“FLICC brings with them a clarity of purpose and the need to plan.”



PUERTO RICO



A Straightforward Transition

Honing skills in compliance with ESSA

FLICC supported the Puerto Rico Department of Education (PRDE) leadership in designing workshops to build capacity regarding ESSA among central- and district-level leadership. Participants were able to understand the flexibility given to states, the components of developing the ESSA state consolidated plan and the implications of reauthorization. In addition, FLICC supported PRDE as they developed and revised their ESSA state consolidated plan.

Professional Learning Communities

Working together to improve educational outcomes

FLICC supported the PRDE undersecretary of academic affairs in designing and implementing a customized systemic model of a Professional Learning Community for Puerto Rico. Policy, materials and guides were created and an implementation process was established. Based on data collected from all of the schools and districts, the *Modelo Ecléctico Comunidades Profesionales de Aprendizaje* (MECPA) project was successful in improving school culture, collaboration among teachers and increasing focus on student needs.



U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

Strategic Performance Management

Enhancing educator effectiveness

FLICC facilitated the creation of a Strategic Performance Management System for the U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Education (VIDE) that folds strategic planning and performance management into one, seamless process. The VIDE set an ambitious direction for education, examined their practices and day-to-day operations, then created a process optimizing employee effectiveness and placing individuals in positions that align with department goals.

Personalized Learning

Improving learning through customized curricula

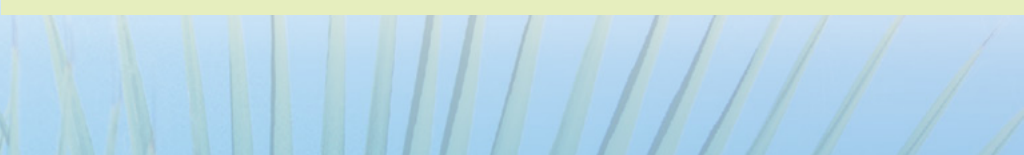
FLICC provides training and support to each school district in their implementation of personalized learning to better meet the needs, interests and aspirations of their students. Teachers are now creating basic and enhanced lesson plans in an online system to increase the quality of their instruction and improve student learning outcomes.

Employee Effectiveness System

Refining instruction through comprehensive evaluation

In 2013 FLICC began supporting the VIDE in the process of creating a new evaluation and support system to address the U.S. Department of Education's major reform area of identifying, recruiting, developing and retaining highly effective teachers and leaders. As a result, the VIDE developed new processes and tools for the majority of employee classifications and now has the capacity to develop, implement, monitor and continuously improve a territory-wide employee effectiveness system.

“The strategic plan is now a foundation and a springboard, and FLICC is really orchestrating the resources that are being brought into the VIDE movement.”





For more information, visit
www.ets.org/flicc/

Copyright © 2018 by Educational Testing Service. All rights reserved.
ETS, the ETS logo and MEASURING THE POWER OF LEARNING
are registered trademarks of Educational Testing Service (ETS). 40228



Measuring the Power of Learning.®

www.ets.org