

Abstract

The purpose of this study is to help sustain the states' focus on education improvement and provide financial support to implement significant changes in educational system. It will examine the President's focus on education and how it differs from No Child Left behind (NCLB). It will also identify and review a peer-reviewed journal research from ProQuest on the changes President Obama is making regarding educational reform. The application is to gain knowledge and understand the differences between President Obama educational reform and NCLB act.

Article Overview: Give a Brief Synopsis of What the Article was about

I have identified and reviewed a peer-reviewed research journal, "The Three's of Obama's Race to the Top (RTT) Program: Reform, Reward and Resistance written by Paul Manna." The purpose of this study is to help sustain the states' focus on education improvement and provide financial support to implement significant changes in educational system. By doing so, the president of the United States Obama is working to effectively facilitate and accomplish the quality educational reform as part of his fiscal year 2011 budget. The article states, "The RTT, like other federal grant programs, was aimed at influencing state and local policy agendas to promote educational equity and academic excellence (Manna, 2010)." I believe this educational reform is a new way forward to help educational leaders measure student success. Below is the discussion of the peer-review research journal:

My Perspective

Based on the reading, I realize that this study is to propose a valuable educational reform plan to help support and provide ongoing educational needs to overcome challenges facing students academic progress. In early March of 2009, President Obama and the congressional

approved \$787 billion economic stimulus package: 100 billion was used to pay teachers from being laid off and \$4.35 was set aside to create RTT. The article states, “By offering important resources on the margins, federal grants can provide an indispensable boost, especially during lean economic times, to support new initiatives or expand current ones (Grady, 2012).” I believe the RTT educational reform is distinctive because it is the largest imperative grant program that the federal Department of Education has increasingly proposed.

No Child Left Behind (NCLB) act is to improve students achievement and change the traditions of American’s educational institutions. The act was proposed by the congress and was signed into law by President George W. Bush in 2002. The purpose of NCLB is to ensure that all the children in our society receive quality and affordable education. The article states, “Low-performing schools will be given greater oversight but also support, such as leadership and teacher development (Manna, 2010).” I believe that it is crucially important for educational leaders and teachers to communicate their visions and how they improve the lives of students in society.

Differences between RTT and NCLB Laws

Based on the reading, I see dissimilarities between the RTT and NCLP because; RTT was designed to encourage and reward states that are creating the conditions for education innovation and reform, while NCLB aims at improving the educational lot of disadvantaged students. They both work to raise awareness to improve schools’ systems. The article states, “Nevada will identify its lowest-performing schools as priority schools and ensure that school districts implement interventions at those schools, similar to the turnaround schools (Grady, 2012).” I believe that these laws want educational leaders to be successful, perhaps find ways to spend time on their strengths and stop spending time in needless activities.

Conclusion: My Reflection

I have enjoyed reading these articles because RTT was signed into law by President Obama to implement and reward states that have demonstrated success in raising students' achievements and having the best plans to accelerate learning opportunities for children at all levels. NCLB was signed into Law by President George W. Bush to establish a timeline that states should follow so they check -points for academic progress. The article states, "The main feature of NCLB was to require greater accountability requirements by imposing adequate yearly progress standards for schools and local education agencies (Manna, 2010)." I believe the United States educational reforms perspective is to challenge schools to share effective strategies on how they are preparing their students to win the future and achieve the goal of having the highest proportion of college graduates in the world.

Below are the ways that I believe educational leaders and teachers can put their visions to work:

- They should reshape their visions to make sure their job performance demonstrates success;
- The need to evaluate what they do best by getting feedback from the people they serve;
- They should represent their people and more for effective work performance;
- They need to build strong vision toward positive influence to achieve outstanding performance.

Ultimately, it is important that effective educational leaders communicate how to achieve their visions and how people will benefit; for example listening to Martin Luther King, Jr's famous speech "I have a Dream." Dr. King's vision was to liberate and ensure that all people are treated equally regardless of their gender, nationality, color and age. The article states, "National officials must weigh carefully the extent to which such collisions, on balance, will energize

needed reforms and not cause unnecessary bureaucratic red tape (Manna, 2010).” After reading these laws, I would encourage any future student in his/her professions to read the laws’ vision about successful and effective leadership in the educational business world.

Works Cited

Grady, D. P. (Jul. 2012). Charter School Revocation: A Method for Efficiency, Accountability, and Success. *Journal of Law and Education*, Vol. 41, Iss. 3, pp. 513 - 555.

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