

## Education Page Case Studies

### **School Improvement Grant Evaluation (Center for Education and Training for Employment, The Ohio State University)**

SRG is conducting a program evaluation at a community school that serves students in grades K-12 with a variety of educational needs. The school received a grant and implemented several new reading and math curricula, new technologies, and new employee positions within their school.

SRG designed both a process evaluation and an outcome evaluation to be implemented at the school. SRG researchers researched existing fidelity measures for the new curricula, and developed fidelity materials for aspects that did not have existing measures. SRG is also evaluating quantitative student data for the various curricula. Finally, SRG developed a feedback survey for the professional development that is provided to the educators, which is used to analyze the professional development sessions and provide feedback for improvement.

### **Development of Diagnostic Tool for Leadership Teams (Ohio Education Research Center)**

SRG is currently conducting an evaluation of a collaborative of rural school districts in Ohio and their leadership structures, with the ultimate goal of developing a diagnostic tool that can be used to determine the effectiveness of those districts' leadership structures and provide guidance for improvement.

The project began with a series of in-depth key informant interviews with district superintendents to better gain an understanding of the existing leadership structures and functioning, followed by interviews with teachers from selected teams to gain a different perspective on the teams. Currently, SRG is in the process of developing a web-based survey that can be used to evaluate team members' perceptions about the effectiveness of the leadership teams. This process involves combining information gathered from the key informant interviews with the results of a literature review of effective teams, both within and outside the context of the educational field.

### **Survey of Youth in Schools (Ohio Department of Health)**

SRG is currently conducting a Youth Tobacco Survey which is a critical tool benchmarking tobacco use, exposure, behaviors, and attitudes among Ohio students in grades six through 12. Using a two-stage sampling design, SRG recruits randomly selected middle schools and

high schools and then randomly samples eligible classes within each school, resulting in approximately 3,000 selected Ohio students.

The surveying process involves administration by both SRG staff and local partner agencies. For some districts, SRG associates administer the surveys. In other cases, partnering health department officials are trained on survey procedures, then travel to each participating school and administer the questionnaire. In addition to coordinating recruitment, sampling specific school classes, and managing survey administration, SRG tracks and calculates school and student participation rates with the goal of securing high participation of selected schools and students to ensure accurate estimates attitudes, behaviors, and knowledge about tobacco use, intent to use, exposure to tobacco use, and exposure to tobacco marketing/advertising among adolescents in Ohio.