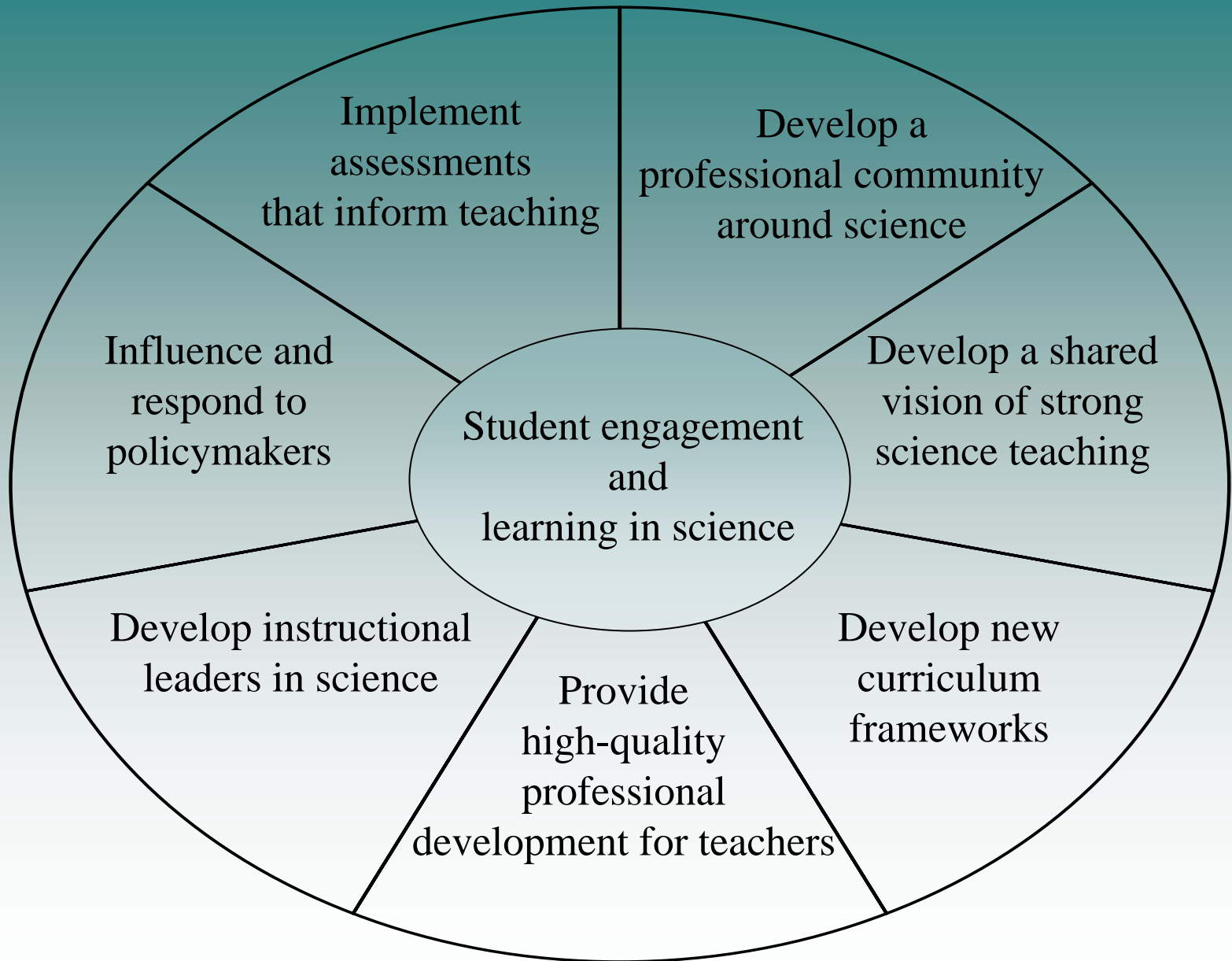


# **Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Education Fund**

March 4, 2005

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Merck Institute for Science Education



# STRATEGY

Build school districts' capacity

# PROGRAM AREAS

- Supporting teachers and administrators
- Providing innovative and effective materials
- Leading a reform agenda

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

- Leader Teacher Institute
- Peer Teacher Workshops
- Principals' Institute
- Study groups
- Merck volunteers

# EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

Measuring changes in:

- student performance and participation
- instructional practice
- school culture
- district policy

# EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

Sources of Data	Measure Change In			
	Student Outcomes	Instructional Practice	School Culture	District Policy
Standardized Tests	✓			
Classroom Tests	✓			
Course Enrollments	✓			
Classroom Observations	✓	✓	✓	
Surveys		✓	✓	✓
Interviews		✓	✓	✓
Teacher Panel		✓	✓	
Case Study Schools		✓	✓	
Sample of LT Teams			✓	
Document Review				✓

# IMPACT OF PARTNERSHIP

- Standards-based curricula in use
- Higher expectations for students
- Changes in the professional culture
- High participation in professional development
- High rate of change in practice
- Increased use of evidence in decisions
- Big change in student experience; modest change in test scores
- Change in district policies and strategies



# LESSONS LEARNED

- A shared vision and clear communication are critical
- Respect for teachers and teaching is a prime directive
- If you build good professional development programs, teachers will come
- Professional development must be a continuous process, not a set of episodes
- Persistence is critical
- Personnel changes are common in school districts
- Teachers' knowledge and skills are critical factors, but not the only ones
- Better assessment tools in science are needed
- The state policy context can play a pivotal role

# CPRE RESEARCH REPORTS

- Getting It Right: The MISE Approach to Professional Development
- Changing District Culture and Capacity: The Impact of the Merck Institute for Science Education Partnership
- Teacher Leadership as a Strategy for Instructional Improvement: The Case of the Merck Institute for Science Education
- The Merck Institute for Science Education: A Successful Intermediary for Education Reform

*[www.cpre.org](http://www.cpre.org)*

*[www.mise.org](http://www.mise.org)*