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JUNE 2018 / VOLUME 7 / NEWSLETTER ISSUE 6

LEARNING FROM ONE ANOTHER; KEY COMPONENT OF INAUGURAL THOUGHT LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

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Every goal begins with a single step, the first one. This is an adaptation of Lao Tzu’s well-known quote, “The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step.” Judging by the evaluation results from the inaugural Thought Leadership Summit, held in Rochester on March 22-23, 2018 the first step was instrumental in achieving the desired goal: quality professional development for superintendents and educational leaders.

The description recognized the professional development as an event that will engage attendees in small focus groups providing purposeful dialogue about pertinent educational issues. Opportunities for discussion revolved around ways public and private partnerships can improve P-12 education. The evaluation data, collected by Signature Partner K12 *Insight*, indicated that 100% of the participants would consider attending another Thought Leadership Summit. On that data alone, the event was a success.

Participation was designed around four strategic partners: Signature Partners Discovery Education, Generation Ready, and WestEd and Premier Silver Partner PrepareU. Attendees were assigned to nine-member teams designated by Council staff, comprised of superintendents representing various demographics. The teams travelled together in a rotation, providing the opportunity to attend each of the four, 90-minute sessions for personal, attendee-driven conversations. Additional time was provided for focus group sessions and networking conversations.

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knowledge base of participants and recognize the value of an instructional vision to improve consistency in instruction. The emphasis was placed on a case study of Franklin School District in New Jersey as they developed mathematics instruction over a period of six years. CONT / 2



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