# TEACHERS

# Dimensions of Teaching Practice Impacted by an FFT Fellowship

### Curriculum and Content

- △ Increased knowledge of subject matter and depth of understanding of
  - Specific topic
  - o Discipline
  - Interdisciplinary connections
  - Cultural contexts
- △ Creation of new curricular and interdisciplinary units, projects and assignments
- A New skills to teach
- Authentic artifacts and stories to enrich studies
- △ Stronger emphasis on diversity, multiple perspectives and cultures
- △ New and powerful metaphors to guide student learning and achievement
- △ More use of primary source material
- △ More use of field work and experts

## Instructional Strategies

- △ New and effective strategies for
  - o Time structures
  - Curricular emphasis
  - o Grouping structures; Grade structures
  - Physical layout and materials
  - Lesson design
  - Assignments
  - Assessments
    - Increased understanding of and commitment to using the power of
  - Authentic experiences and work
  - Hands on work
  - Fieldwork experiences
  - o Bringing in outside experts
    - Additional teaching tools
  - Technology
  - Techniques and Protocols

#### Cultural Understanding

- △ Increased awareness of connections between cultures and of the global environment
- △ Increased awareness of the culture of students' lives and cultures of origin
  - Increased understanding of poverty and wealth:
  - o Degrees and effects of poverty
  - Different notions of a wealthy life
    - New credibility and authenticity with students and families from different cultures

- Increased respect for the values of different cultures in the school community
- Increased commitment to affirming diversity
- △ Deepened personal sensitivity
- △ Perspective on Student Potential, Student Character and School Culture
- △ Improved relations with students through:
  - More empathy, understanding of students as learners. Remembering the feeling, the curve, the process of learning new things
  - Better understanding of student's lives and cultures
  - Being more approachable: the fellowship as an entry point for discussion and connection
  - More investment in challenging and supporting students
  - More investment in empowering students as learners, citizens, and leaders
  - Better communication and understanding in parent and community relationships
- △ Increased commitment to:
  - Authentic, meaningful work
  - Multiple perspectives
  - Self-sufficiency and initiative in students
  - Positive character values
  - Commitment to building whole school, whole team, or community excitement

#### Being a Role Model

- △ Increased ability to be a model, for students and colleagues, of:
  - Passion for learning (the teacher as "head learner")
  - Being an agent of change in society
  - Commitment to ethics, character and service
  - Teacher as researcher
  - Adventure and risk taking
  - o Fortitude and resilience
  - Overcoming fears and challenges
- A Being a role model for a paradigm shift in how teachers of all grade levels and specialties are viewed by colleagues, administration and the public. Helping teachers to be seen as:
  - Scholars
  - Researchers
  - Life-long learners
- A Being a role model for self-advocacy in seeking opportunities for growth and learning
- A Being a role model for the ability of teachers to design powerful, individual professional development