



Education consultant comments on Delaware's 'Race to the Top' grant

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The work that Delaware has done before Race to the Top began brought strength to the state's application, said Jan Leight, a senior executive with Focus on Results, a consulting group that has done work with Vision 2015.

The work that Vision 2015 has done was key because the U.S. Department of Education was looking for strategies that work, she said.

In the education community there's a tendency to jump to new programs heralded as the next big thing, Leight said. But results are going to come with improvements in everyday instruction and local leadership, she said.

The state's application was strong because it wasn't just about what's new, Leight said.

"Traditionally, school districts can be fairly initiative happy, and then they don't stick with it sometimes," she said. "What matters most is quality teaching and leaders on the school and district level."

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