

Effective Teaching and Leadership: *Teach for America*

December 12, 2011

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What You've Heard.....

Vision 2016

**demands a strategy that
is dramatically different**

THREE POINTS TO REMEMBER

1. Nothing matters more than effective teaching!
2. CCSD's #1 Priority - An effective teacher in front of every student across the district.
3. Teach for America (TFA) is one of several ways we can move towards an effective teacher in every classroom.

Who is Teach for America?

- ▶ **Vision:** One day, all children in this nation will have the opportunity to attain an excellent education
- ▶ **Experience:** Over 20 years recruiting outstanding individuals to teach for 2-years in low-income communities across the US (43 regions)
- ▶ **Impact:** Teaching model trains more teachers for low-income communities than any other organization including institutions of higher education

TFA Corps Members

- ▶ **TFA** is incredibly selective:
 - Must demonstrate leadership and perseverance
 - Top college graduates in ALL majors

- ▶ **2011 Corps Members**
 - 48,000 applied, only 11% accepted
 - Average GPA is 3.6
 - 35% identified as People of Color
 - 31% received Pell Grants

TFA's Results

- ▶ Students of TFA teachers made **more progress in reading and math** (per year) than would be typically expected (Mathematica Policy Research, 2004)
- ▶ The effectiveness of TFA teachers is **far more like that of certified veteran teachers than like that of new teachers** (LA Practitioner Teacher Project, 2009)

TFA's Results

State of Tennessee's **2011 Report Card on the Effectiveness of 43 Teacher Training Programs**

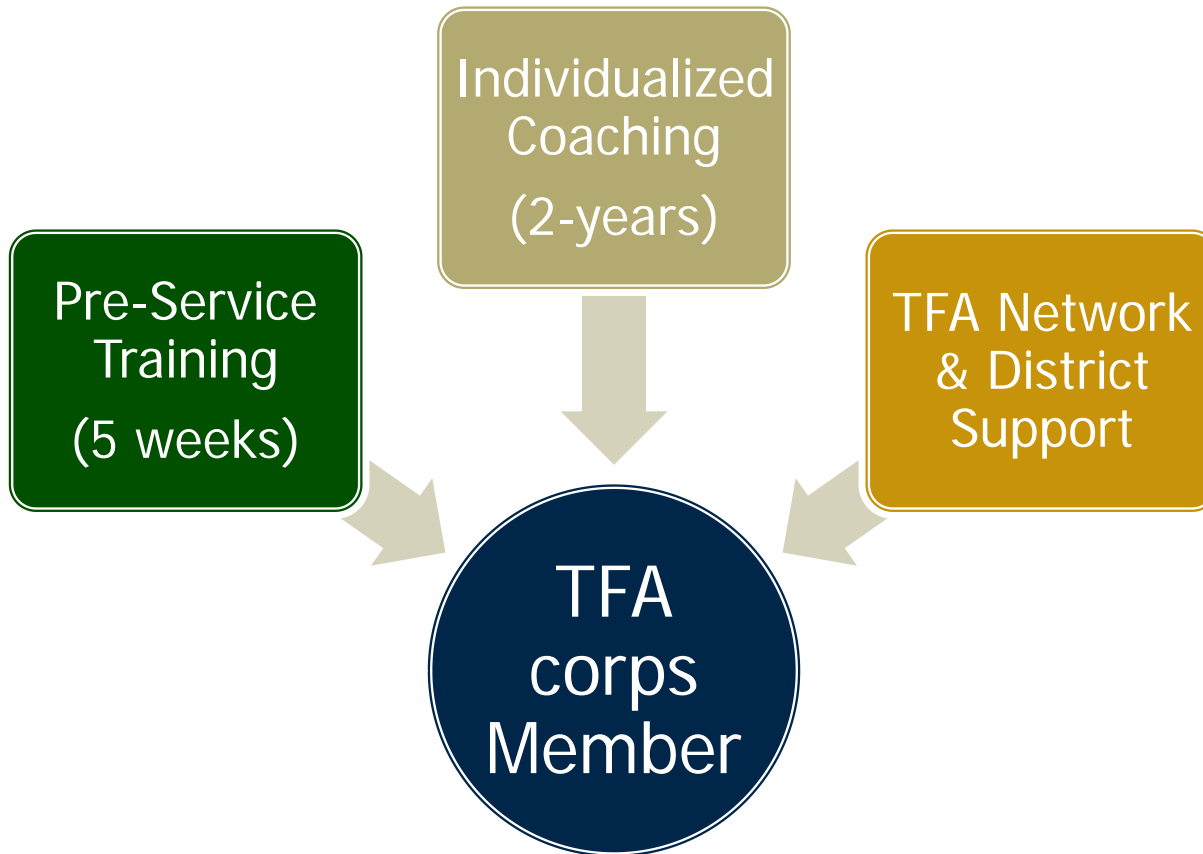
- Key Findings for *Teach for America Tennessee*:
 - Top teacher preparation program based on value-added student achievement
 - Largest share of teachers performing in the top 20% of all teachers statewide
 - Greater impact than the average new 4th – 8th grade teacher in all subject areas and grade levels

CCSD Teacher's Perspective

► Ms. Heather McEldowney

- English Teacher at North Charleston High School
- Graduate of Miami University (OH)
- 2009 Corps Member, Washington DC

TFA's Teaching Model



Why TFA in Charleston?

- ▶ Shared vision of doing things *differently* to ensure excellence for every child
- ▶ Proven strategic model w/a commitment to a continued partnership
- ▶ Our **#1 intervention** is an effective teacher

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ANY QUESTIONS?

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