

SUNY OSWEGO Educational Administration Department

PLATFORM STATEMENTS

Your educational platform statements are a series of assumptions, theories and beliefs about what you hold to be possible, true and desirable on the topics that we identify. Your platform statements are your beliefs that guide you as you think, act, chose, and decide as an educational leader. You will work on these throughout your CAS program. The platform requirement is listed in the Implementation Phase of the internship process with the hope that you are writing them throughout your coursework and internship. However, you share them in their final form at the end of the internship during your **oral comprehensive examination (#11 in your internship materials)**.

The process of developing a platform is arduous for some, but beneficial for all. By writing a platform, you clarify your values and synthesize your thoughts about educational leadership. In addition, your platform statements help you to communicate with others in an articulate way about your professional positions on educational and leadership issues.

So, when writing your platform statements, make clear the standards of practice that you will use in judging your own performance, the actions of others, and the learning environment. Platform statements are living documents that can be changed or revised over time, especially as you create your portfolio for your oral comprehensive examination. Please include a brief example of a personal experience or one you observed that supports your thinking. Please be ready to cite 2-3 known scholars in the field who support your thinking; however, **do not** include citations in your writing.

The required platform statements were revised in September 2010 to better reflect those issues that will most likely be addressed during interviews you will have to obtain your internships and future positions. These platform statements are now grouped into broader categories. You will have a total of 14 platform statements including your vision statement. The platform statements need to be formatted in the following manner:

- Are no longer than 2 pages
- Are at least 12 font
- Have 1" margins
- Contain no citations (But, you should be ready to name 2-3 scholars at your comprehensive exam and/or interviews who support your thinking.)

Increasing Student Success by

1. Using Data for School Improvement
2. Providing Leadership for Integrating 21st Century Skills in the Classroom
3. Implementing a Standards-Based Curricula for a Global Society
4. Meeting the Needs of Diverse Learners
5. Fostering a School-Wide Student Management Plan

Creating Effective School Environments Through

6. Developing School, Parent, Community Partnerships
7. Implementing and Sustaining Organizational Change: Systems Change
8. Budgeting and Financial Resource Allocation
9. Integrating Instructional and Administrative Technology

Enhancing Professional Growth Through

10. Supervising and Evaluating School Personnel
11. Maintaining High Standards for Hiring, Personnel Management and Professional Development

Leading Effectively Through One's

12. Leadership Style
13. Ethical Leadership
14. Vision for
 - a. A High Performing School and
 - b. The Leader's Role in Developing and Sustaining This Vision.

ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION BULLETS TO HELP YOU IN THE WRITING OF YOUR PLATFORM STATEMENTS

• Increasing Student Success by

1. Using Data for School Improvement
 - a. What is their definition of data?
 - b. How can all data be used more effectively to increase student success?
 - c. What data is required for all students? Schools?
 - d. How do they keep abreast of changes in these requirements?

What is a brief example of this from your experience?

2. Teaching 21st Century Skills
 - a. What are 21st century skills?
 - b. Why are they important to teach?
 - c. How do we help educators, students and parents become aware of these skills?
 - d. How do instruction, assessment and curriculum need to change to reflect these 21st century skills?

What is a brief example of this from your experience?

3. Implementing a Standards-Based Curricula for a Global Society
 - a. What is a standards-based curricula?
 - b. How does it reflect local, state and national standards?
 - c. How is it best developed, implemented, monitored, evaluated and modified?
 - d. Who is involved in this process?

What is a brief example of this from your experience?

4. Meeting the Needs of Diverse Learners
 - a. How do teachers provide equity for all students?
 - b. How do they differentiate to meet all students' needs?
 - c. How do they demonstrate courageous leadership as they address the difficult issues of social justice?
 - d. How do they model this in their settings?
 - e. How do they celebrate success for all students?

What is a brief example of this from your experience?

5. Fostering a School-Wide Student Management Plan
 - a. What are key elements of a student management plan?
 - b. How does scheduling fit in?
 - c. Engaging instruction and relevant curricula?
 - d. What support systems are in place for students within the school and through community agencies?
 - e. How do they access legal advice?

What is a brief example of this from your experience?

• Creating Effective School Environments Through

6. Developing School, Parent, Community Partnerships
 - a. How do they develop connections with parents, especially hard-to-engage parents?
 - b. How do they become aware of community resources and strengthen these linkages?
 - c. How do they engage parents in the overall school program?
 - d. How can community involvement enhance the development of 21st century skills?

What is a brief example of this from your experience?

7. Implementing and Sustaining Organizational Change: Systems Change
 - a. What are key factors in the change process? A systems change?
 - b. Who are the key players and how are they involved? How are those who resist change moved forward?
 - c. How do they help the school implement second order change?
 - d. How are change initiatives developed, implemented and evaluated?
 - e. How are supervision and professional development linked to change initiatives?

What is a brief example of this from your experience?

8. Budgeting and Financial Resource Allocation
 - a. What are the key components of a budget?
 - b. How is the budget developed?
 - c. What is the role of the community in this budgeting process?
 - d. How are resource and materials allocation decisions made?

What is a brief example of this from your experience?

9. Integrating Instructional and Administrative Technology
 - a. How is technology used to enhance, not supplant good teaching?
 - b. How are the results of this integration evaluated?
 - c. How is the budget developed to support this integration?
 - d. What are key areas in which administrative software is being used and why is this beneficial?

What is a brief example of this from your experience?

- **Enhancing Professional Growth Through**

10. Supervising and Evaluating School Personnel
 - a. What is the difference between supervision and evaluation?
 - b. What is the relationship of these practices to the APPR?
 - c. What are a variety of ways in which teachers/professionals may demonstrate competence? Excellence?
 - d. What are various strategies that leaders use to provide ongoing supervision of their staff?
 - e. What happens when a teacher/professional is not performing up to standards?

What is a brief example of this from your experience?

11. Maintaining High Standards for Hiring, Personnel Management and Professional Development
 - a. What are key considerations when hiring?
 - b. What are the skills, behaviors and dispositions of an effective teacher/professional?
 - c. Why is knowledge of the various contracts important?
 - d. How are personnel decisions made and who is involved?
 - e. What professional development is necessary to help teachers/professionals grow?
 - f. What is the role of a professional learning community in this growth process?
 - g. What are a variety of professional development options that can help to promote growth at all stages of a professional's career?
 - h. How is the professional development implemented, monitored and evaluated?

What is a brief example of this from your experience?

- **Leading Effectively Through One's**

12. Leadership Style
 - a. What are the key elements of your leadership style?
 - b. How do you flex your style to meet the demands of various situations?
 - c. How do you continue to gain feedback about the effectiveness of your leadership?
 - d. How do you demonstrate courageous leadership in addressing social justice issues?

- e. How does your leadership style promote 21st century skills and success for all students and staff?

What is a brief example of this from your experience?

13. Ethical Leadership

- a. What is ethical leadership?
- b. How do you approach the ethical decision making process?
- c. How do you ensure that you have sufficient data when making an ethical decision?
- d. How do the legal aspects of the situation factor into your decision?

What is a brief example of this from your experience?

14. Vision for

- a. A High Performing School and
 - i. What is essential when creating and sustaining a high performing school?
 - ii. Who is involved?
 - iii. How is this vision shared with staff, students, parents and the community?
 - iv. How is progress communicated?
- b. The Leader's Role in Developing and Sustaining This Vision.
 - i. What is your role as a leader of this process?
 - ii. From whom will you gain insights, mentoring and feedback as you engage in actualizing this vision?
 - iii. How will you know when adjustments need to occur?

What is a brief example of this from your experience?

PORTFOLIO - A collection of elements that demonstrate one's KNOWLEDGE, skills and dispositions as an entry level administrator including the following:

- Professional platform statements that have been updated including one's vision statement
- Sample observation write up (name blocked for confidentiality)
- Samples of one's best REFLECTION on administrative practice
- Products and artifacts from coursework and the internship that demonstrate administrative skills
- Resume
- An NCATE self -assessment of areas for continued professional growth
- Leadership Project and Internship reflection
- Verification of meeting all NYS Education requirements (SAVE, Child Abuse, Finger Printing, Successful completion of the SBL and SDL assessments)