

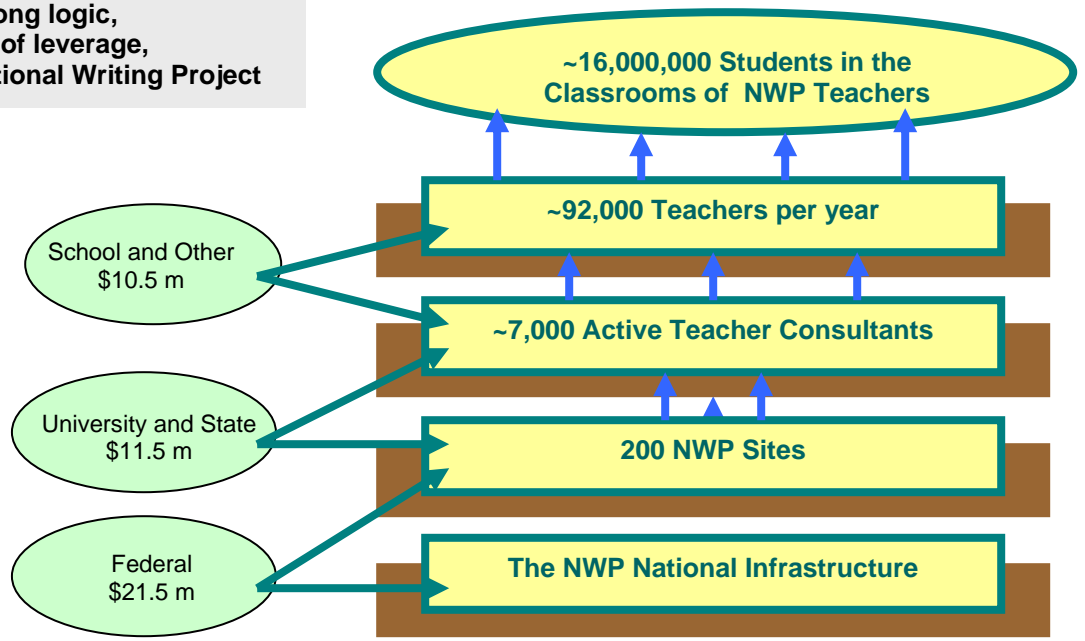
INVERNESS RESEARCH: THE IMPORTANCE OF FEDERAL SUPPORT OF THE NWP

1. There is a strong logic, and a high degree of leverage, to the investment in the National Writing Project

2. The NWP is not just another professional development “project.”

It is a national professional development infrastructure that supports a network of 200 sites.

- National leadership and administration
- Research and evaluation
- Centralized fundraising
- Special initiatives
- Leadership development
- Support and technical assistance
- Site review and quality control



3. The NWP national network of 200 local sites creates the capacity to serve large numbers of teachers.

Over 3,000 institute participants each summer...over 7,000 TCs conducting PD for their sites each year...working with an average of 14 teachers each...reaching over 92,000 teachers each year...year after year

4. NWP programs are of high quality. Seven years of Inverness survey data:

- 97% of teachers say NWP institutes are better than other professional development.
- 97% of teachers say that what they learn from the NWP translates into better writing skills for their students
- Most NWP teachers are using, and disseminating, classroom practices that are statistically correlated with higher achievement on the National Assessment of Education Progress writing assessments.

Also...

- SRI is currently conducting a 4-year randomized control study of writing improvement.
- Local Site Research Initiative evaluations show positive results for student writing improvement.

- ◆ The NWP is the largest and longest-standing professional development program in U.S. history.
- ◆ The NWP is not just another “project.” It is a national infrastructure of linked sites, each of which is a school-university partnership.
- ◆ Federal funding of the NWP is not just another annual “expenditure.” It is an investment that is cost- efficient and generates ever-expanding capacity to serve teachers.
- ◆ The federal investment in the NWP infrastructure leads to large-scale improvements in writing for students.
- ◆ Federal funding remains critical to the NWP’s future work. Federal funding enables the infrastructure to function. A discontinuity in federal funding could put the entire infrastructure, built over 30 years, at risk.

“If you want the apples you have to take care of the tree.”

NWP Spring Meeting, April 3-4, 2008

