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## **Boosting Student Achievement and Promoting College Readiness The Business-Higher Education Forum's 2007 Action Agenda for K-12 Public Education**

### **National Level**

- Work with leading foundations and graduate schools of education to establish a clearinghouse of information about effective practices and strategies for boosting student achievement and promoting college readiness, including guides, explanatory information and materials to help companies, higher education institutions, foundations and others maximize the impact of their individual and collective efforts.
- Seek to influence corporate philanthropy for K-12 public education toward programs and practices that are effective in boosting student achievement and promoting college readiness. Emphasize rigorous analysis of programs and help companies know what measurements should apply.
- Advocate for legislative initiatives that promise to have a positive impact on teacher preparation, college access and the development of Pre-School through College (P-16) councils. Promote inclusion of these initiatives in legislation reauthorizing the No Child Left Behind and Higher Education Acts. Focus lawmakers on the pre-K-16 educational pipeline and on steps our nation can take to prevent students from leaving it at pivotal points.

### **State & Local Levels**

- Advocate for standards, assessments and accountability policies that help to align K-12 curricula with the demands of college and work, including such initiatives as Achieve Inc.'s American Diploma Project, a 26-state collaborative effort focused on aligning high school, college and workplace standards.
- Encourage companies to align their financial and philanthropic support for K-12 public schools with district-wide improvement efforts; to seek out opportunities to spread locally effective initiatives nationally; to inspire students with real-life examples of success; and to assist school districts in managing such ancillary functions as Information Technology, food service, and human resources management.
- Support programs that increase K-12 student achievement and enhance college readiness – including, but not limited to, supplemental pay for teachers who improve student learning, who teach in high demand fields or who accept the most challenging assignments.