

**Demystifying Accountability:
Empowering Evaluation Strategies to Create Shared Responsibility for Student Achievement
Proposal By: Nicole R. Bowman (Mohican)**

Because of the collaborative nature of this five hour workshop, participants are encouraged to register as a district team of 3-6 people with representation from policy makers, administration, educators, students, families, and/or community members.

Since the inception of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) policy, accountability for student achievement among the diverse sub-groups has been a requirement of the law. Often addressing this accountability requirement has been difficult to meet and is often a disconnected process across policy makers, administrators, teachers, students, families, and communities. This disconnect is known as the “policy and implementation gap.” During this five hour workshop we will not only study this gap, but will go one step further to develop short and long term evaluation strategies to measure how effective policies and programs are for student achievement in your district.

So, how can accountability be reframed and operationalized so that it contributes to an environment of trust, open communication, and cooperative participation among diverse educational stakeholders? Participants will be given field tested tools and a five step framework to create a trusting environment for shared responsibility of student success. Through an empowering five step school and community based evaluation process (SCBEP) process, participants will understand how to develop their own comprehensive plan for student achievement through: 1. needs documentation and goal formation, 2. evaluation policy development, 3. evaluation policy implementation, 4. evaluation policy and program accountability, and 5. policy and program replication and dissemination. Using real educational case examples from multiple perspectives, coupled with the WI state and federal education policies, participants will leave with a deeper understanding of and a specific plan of action for meeting the accountability requirements for *all* students under NCLB in their district.

This highly interactive workshop will be 60% participant activities (large group, small group, individual work, question, answer, and discussion), 20% facilitation, and 20% lecture. This gives participants ample time to absorb, process, and practice the new content learned in the workshop. Participants will also leave with multiple academic, professional, and educational resources to assist them upon the return back to their community. **Please see booth XXX for more information.**

***Bowman**, a University of WI-Madison Fellow, will complete her Ph.D. in Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis in 2007 and is an Indigenous special interest group officer for the international American Educational Research Association. She is a registered scientific evaluator for the U.S. Department of Education’s Institute of Educational sciences and her company, Bowman Performance Consulting LLC, was registered as a WI NCLB approved supplemental educational service provider in 2003.*