



# Instructional Focus

... because programs fade, but practices endure!

Good teaching is the single most important predictor of student learning. Good teaching thrives with strong capable leadership and sound organizational practices.

The Eye on the Goal™ school improvement system focuses leaders, teachers and staff on the **disciplined practices** that guarantee **extraordinary results** for all students, without exception.

## WHAT YOU WILL DO

The Instructional Focus is the centerpiece of that school improvement system. It consists of three steps.

### 1. ANALYZE STUDENT LEARNING

Use Performance Fact's 4-Lens Data Analysis protocol to assess the current state of student learning and achievement. Explore multiple sources and types of student data, including data that describe academic achievement, academic tenacity and socio-emotional resiliency.

### 2. DISCOVER "ROOT CAUSE"

Find the underlying causes of the current state of student learning by reflecting on the effectiveness of current professional practices. Use the 16 high-leverage practices and the associated rubric to guide evidence-based dialog among practitioners and stakeholders, and to identify the root-cause practices (or "pillars") of your Instructional Focus.

### 3. CLARIFY INSTRUCTIONAL VISION, PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES AND VITAL SIGNS

Set an "achievable stretch" goal for student learning, then define the specific professional practices that must be implemented well to accomplish the goal.

What gets measured and reinforced, gets done! By paying consistent attention to the vital signs of student learning and professional practices, you will be able to monitor and communicate progress, continuously improve practices, ensure accountability and celebrate progress.

Programs fade, but practices endure! Whenever a school stays true to the "root cause" practices outlined in its Instructional Focus, significant improvement in student achievement follows.

