

School Improvement Planning

in 1 2 3 Steps

Analyze student data and discover root cause. Set achievement targets.
Align practices and resources.

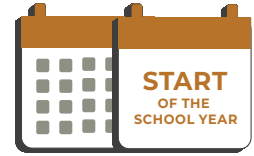


Chart the Course

A well-designed and -executed annual school improvement plan charts the course for the school year. Results-focused and practice-driven, such a planning framework undergirds any school's commitment to continuous improvement.

An effective framework must fundamentally distinguish between *ends* and *means*. Consider:

- The *ends*: explicit student growth and achievement targets that the school and its stakeholders will commit to
- The *means*: the professional practices and strategies, professional learning themes, and equitable resource allocation decisions deemed most essential for accelerating outcomes for all students

Effective school improvement planning is a collaborative exercise that includes all stakeholders, especially teachers, school administrators, parents, and – at the secondary level – students. By embracing diverse perspectives in the process, the resulting school improvement plan reflects the priorities and solutions proposed by all stakeholders, thereby strengthening their buy-in and commitment to its implementation.

► Recommended launch date for CHART THE COURSE School Improvement Planning process: Start of school year

STEP BY STEP

STEP
1

Where are we now?

Assess present circumstances

- ◆ Analyze current state of student learning and achievement
- ◆ Assess current state of professional practices and educational programs
- ◆ Define highest-priority areas of strength and concern

STEP
2

Where are we going next?

Core purpose, student outcomes

- ◆ Reaffirm vision, mission, and core values
- ◆ Set equity-driven student achievement targets for the year

STEP
3

How do we get there?

Instructional core, key actions, resources, milestones

- ◆ Frame the Big Picture: practices, strategies, and professional development/collaboration priorities
- ◆ Establish the assessment calendar
- ◆ Align resources (people, time, money) equitably with priorities
- ◆ Define critical milestones of progress (monitored via the CPR Card™)
- ◆ Determine critical metrics for student learning and professional practices (monitored using the Vital Signs Scorecard™)