

## Learning Partner Open House

# Partnering with the THOUGHTFUL CLASSROOM



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School Improvement Specialist  
*Matteson, Illinois*



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FIND US ON THE ISBE IL-EMPOWER LEARNING PARTNER WEBSITE  
Search for **SILVER STRONG & ASSOCIATES**

[www.ThoughtfulClassroom.com/il-empower](http://www.ThoughtfulClassroom.com/il-empower)

# The Purpose of School



To prepare  
the youth of  
today for  
their lives of  
tomorrow



# Who Are We?



[www.ThoughtfulClassroom.com/il-empower](http://www.ThoughtfulClassroom.com/il-empower)

# Our Thoughtful Classroom Approach



**Over 45 years of experience**  
working in schools.



**Over 800 PD partnerships**  
across urban, suburban, and rural communities.

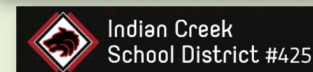
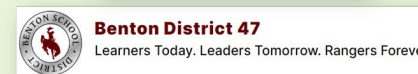
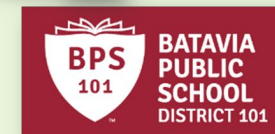
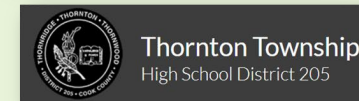
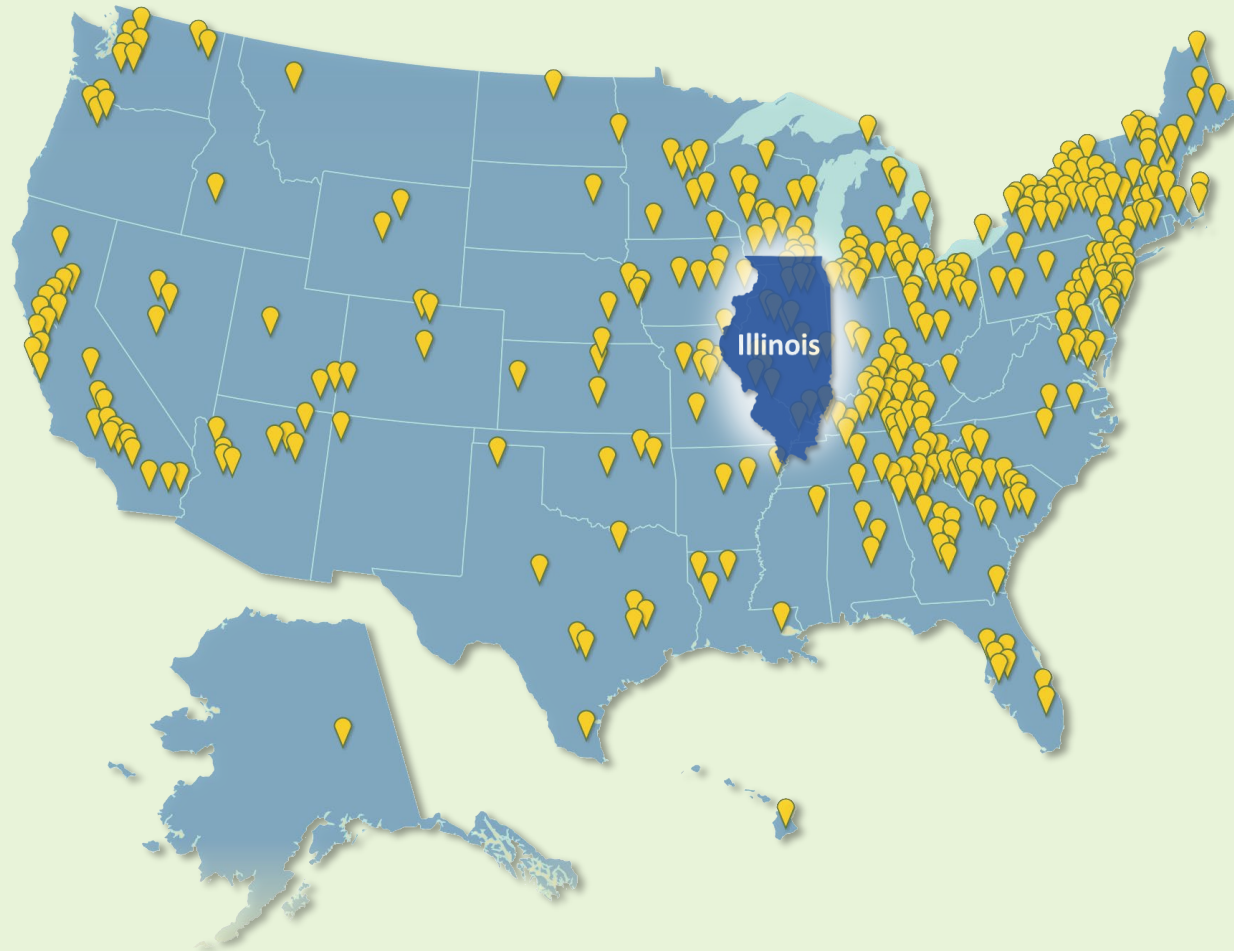


**Individual schools to statewide initiatives—**  
and everything in between.



*The professional development division of  
Silver Strong & Associates*

# A Legacy of Successful Partnerships with Schools and Districts Around the United States & Throughout Illinois



# How the Thoughtful Classroom Can Help

## ALL Educators

- Teachers & Paraprofessionals
- Principals & Building Leaders
- Superintendents

## ALL Grade Levels

Kindergarten – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

## ALL Regions

Statewide – All Six Illinois Regions

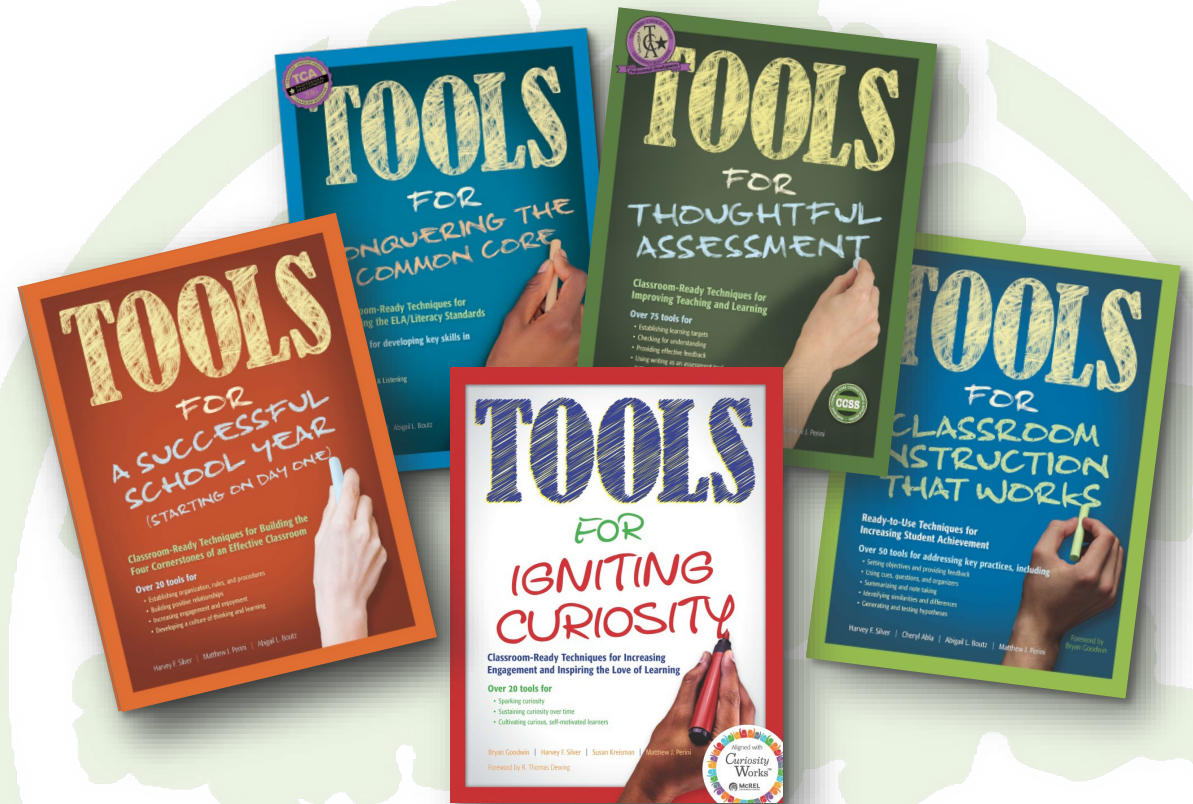
## ALL PD Formats

Face-to-Face, Virtual, & Hybrid

## Professional Learning Support

- ✓ Leading School Improvement
- ✓ Safe and Engaging Schools and Classrooms
- ✓ Curriculum Audit
- ✓ Standards-Aligned Curriculum
- ✓ Instructional Practices
- ✓ Professional Learning
- ✓ Instructional Coaching
- ✓ Leadership Coaching
- ✓ Family and Community Engagement
- ✓ Shared Leadership

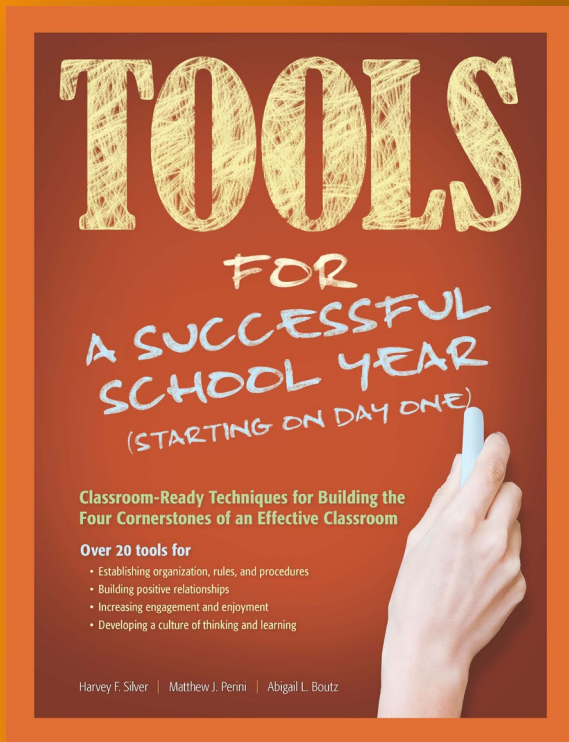
# Leaders in Practical TOOLS



- ✓ Used in thousands of schools
- ✓ Recommended by top researchers and experts
- ✓ Easy to integrate into current lessons and units
- ✓ Four-time winners of the *Teachers' Choice Award*

# A Framework for Successful Classrooms

## The Four Cornerstones



**Organization,  
Rules, &  
Procedures**

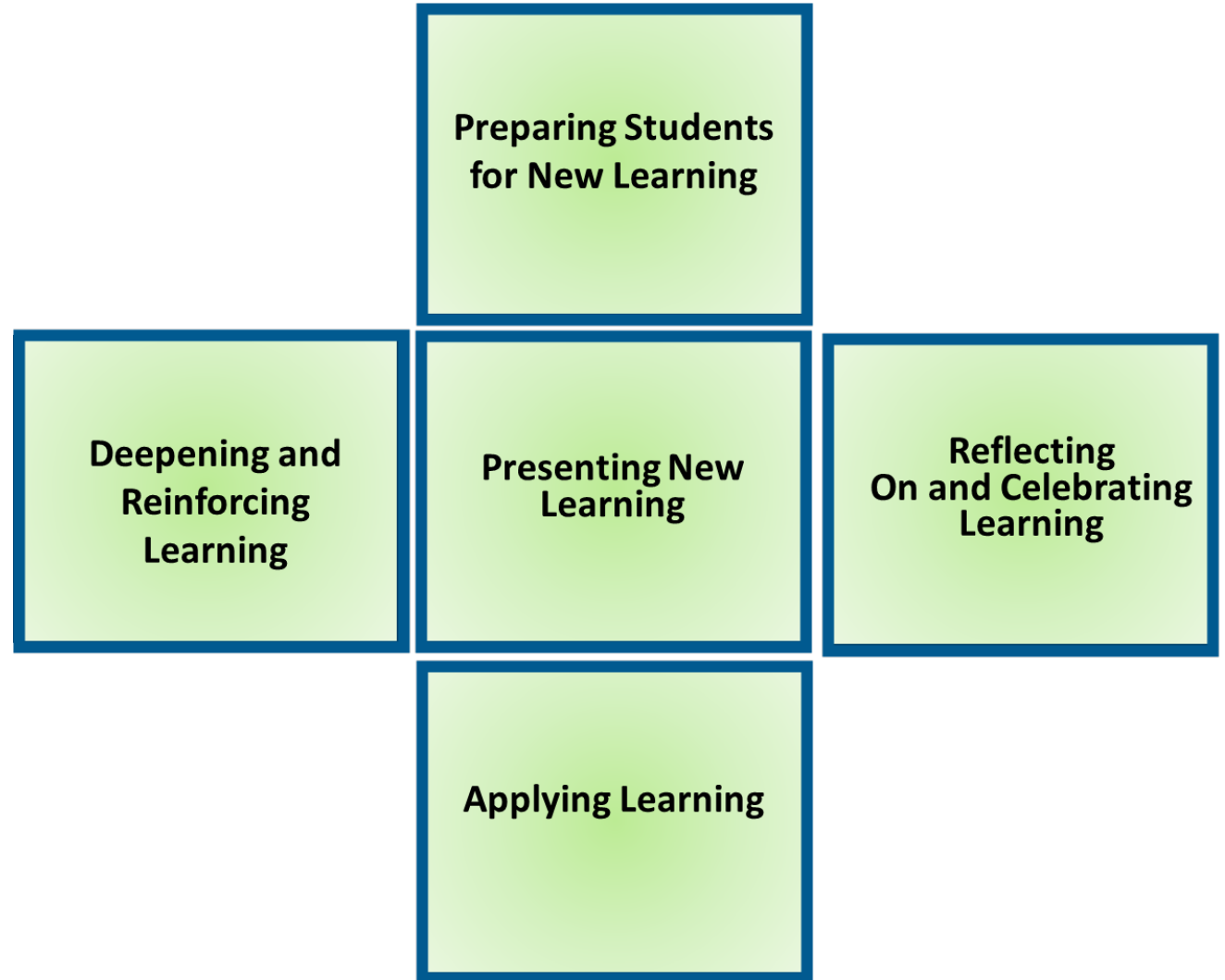
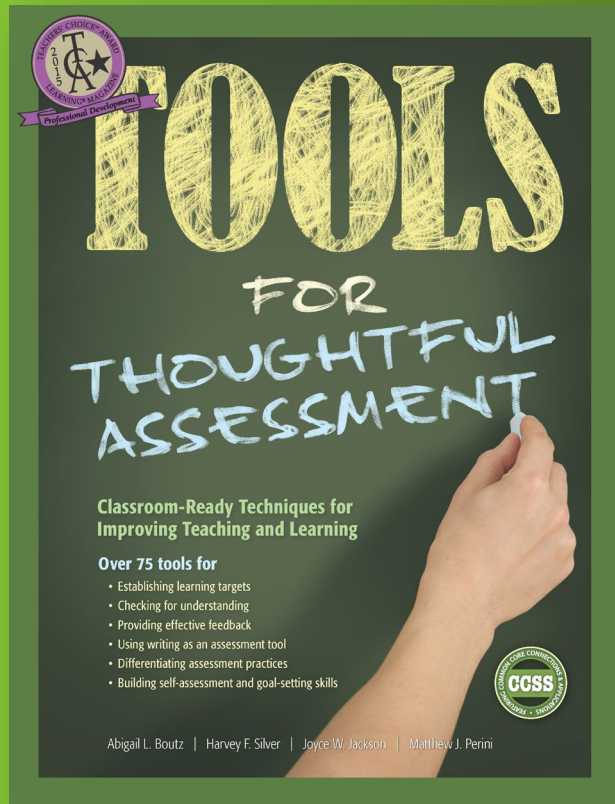
**Positive  
Relationships**

**A Culture of  
Thinking &  
Learning**

**Engagement  
&  
Enjoyment**

# A Framework for Successful Lessons & Units

## The Five Episodes of Effective Instruction



# What Is Our Approach?



[www.ThoughtfulClassroom.com/il-empower](http://www.ThoughtfulClassroom.com/il-empower)

# The most important factor affecting STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

*Jenni Donohoo, John Hattie and Rachel Eells, Educational Leadership V. 75, No. 6, March, 2018*

## A Focus on Instruction

Figure 1. Factors Influencing Student Achievement

Collective Teacher Efficacy	1.57
Prior achievement	0.65
Socioeconomic status	0.52
Home environment	0.52
Parental involvement	0.49
Motivation	0.48
Concentration/persistence/engagement	0.48
Homework	0.29
Note: Effect sizes are based on Cohen's d. The average effect size is $d=0.40$ . This average summarizes the typical effect of all possible influences on education.	

# Our Approach to Partnership

**A common  
language  
focused on  
practical  
instructional  
techniques**

A manageable  
improvement  
process

Focused support  
for leaders,  
instructional  
leaders, and  
teachers

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# Online Learning Suites

## TOOLS & STRATEGIES THAT . . .

- Align directly with your school improvement goals
- Promote deeper learning and higher engagement in all content areas and grades
- Are easy to integrate into practice

## EXPERT-LED TUTORIALS

## PLANNING GUIDES

## CLASSROOM RESOURCES

## COLLABORATIVE REFLECTION

Increasing Engagement & Enjoyment (Cornerstone Three)

0% complete

Search by lesson title

- ☐ Cornerstone Overview 0/2
- ☐ Classroom Games 0/2
- ☐ Divergent Thinking 0/2
- ☐ Effort Tracker 0/3
- ☐ Personal Best 0/3
- ☐ Questioning in Style 0/4

TOOL: Questioning in Style

VIDEO 13 MIN

**The Four Cornerstones**

- Organization, Rules, & Procedures
- Positive Relationships
- A Culture of Thinking & Learning
- Engagement & Enjoyment

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COMPLETE & CONTINUE →

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## EXPERT-LED TUTORIALS

## PLANNING GUIDES

## CLASSROOM RESOURCES

## COLLABORATIVE REFLECTION

ELMWOOD THOUGHTFUL CLASSROOM		CUSTOM SUITE
Tools to Support Our School Improvement Plan		
PRIORITY / FOCUS AREA		TOOLS & STRATEGIES
★ Classroom Procedures		✂ Procedural PRO ✂ Rules to Live & Learn By
★ Engagement		✂ Questioning in Style ✂ Effort Tracker ✂ Divergent Thinking
★ Reading Comprehension		✂ Reading for Meaning ✂ Power Previewing ✂ Reading Stances

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**Collect and analyze data to  
identify a need/goal**

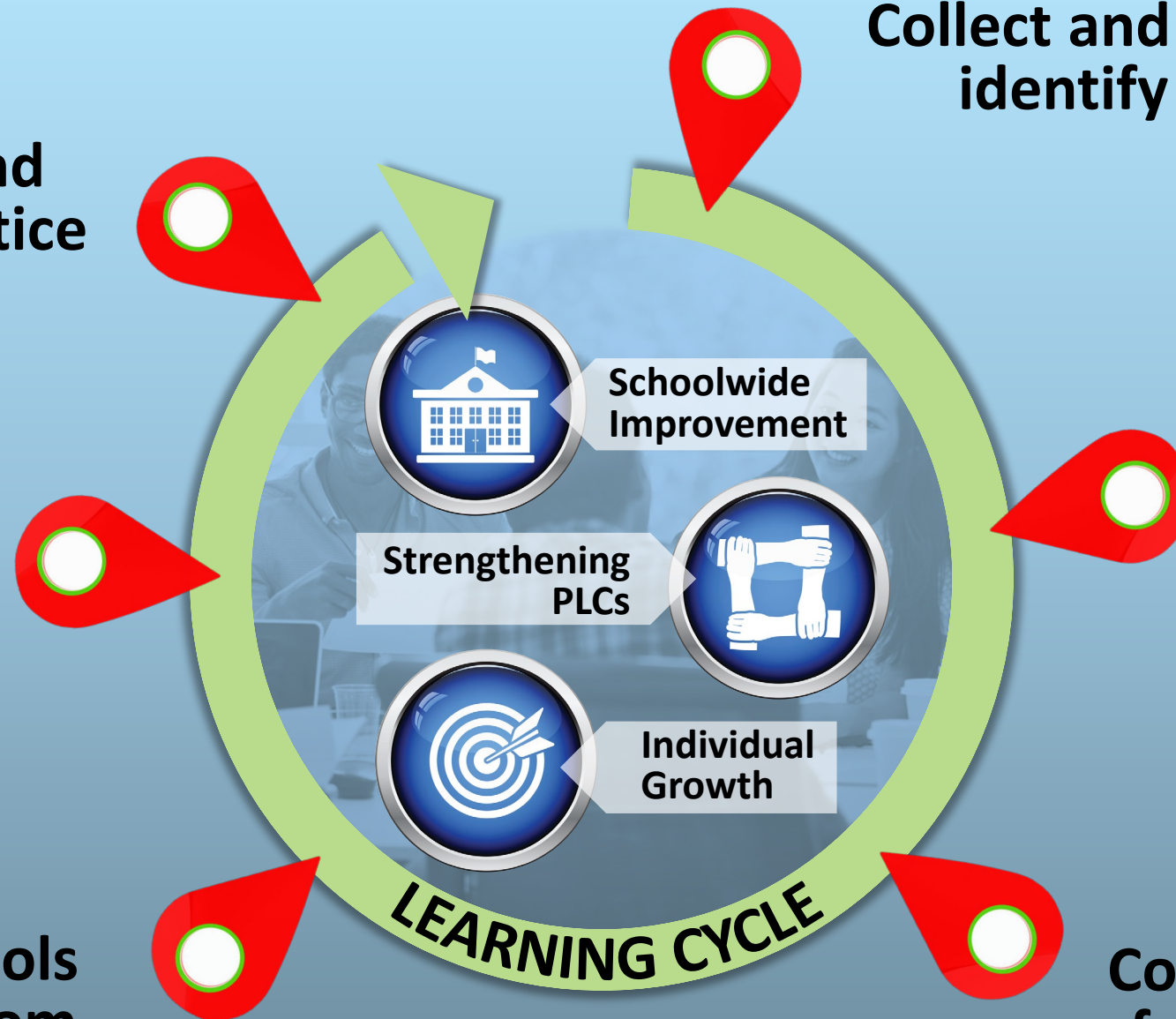
**Select tools  
to address  
the goal**

**Commit time to  
professional learning**

**Implement tools  
in the classroom**

**Monitor  
progress**

**Reflect and  
refine practice**



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Leadership Support

School Improvement Planning

Establishing PLCs

Instructional  
Leadership Academies

Curriculum Review

Full-Staff Training

New Teacher Academies



Dr. Harvey F. Silver



Dr. Thomas  
Dewing



Dr. Ida  
Teverbaugh-Turpin



Dr. Sharon  
Paver-Nepote



# What Does a Partnership Look Like?



Wagoner School



Collaborative



Personalized



Ongoing Support



Solution-Oriented



Results-Focused

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# Wagoner School: What We Wanted In a Partner

- ✓ **A commitment to building on our strengths.**
- ✓ **Experience and a track record of success.**
- ✓ **Tools and resources** that were adaptable, easy to use, and supported by research and the science of learning.
- ✓ **A demonstrated ability to support our team** in key areas: Increasing collaboration and trust, building shared leadership, instructional design, classroom engagement, transferable learning, etc.

**Collect and analyze data to  
identify a need/goal**

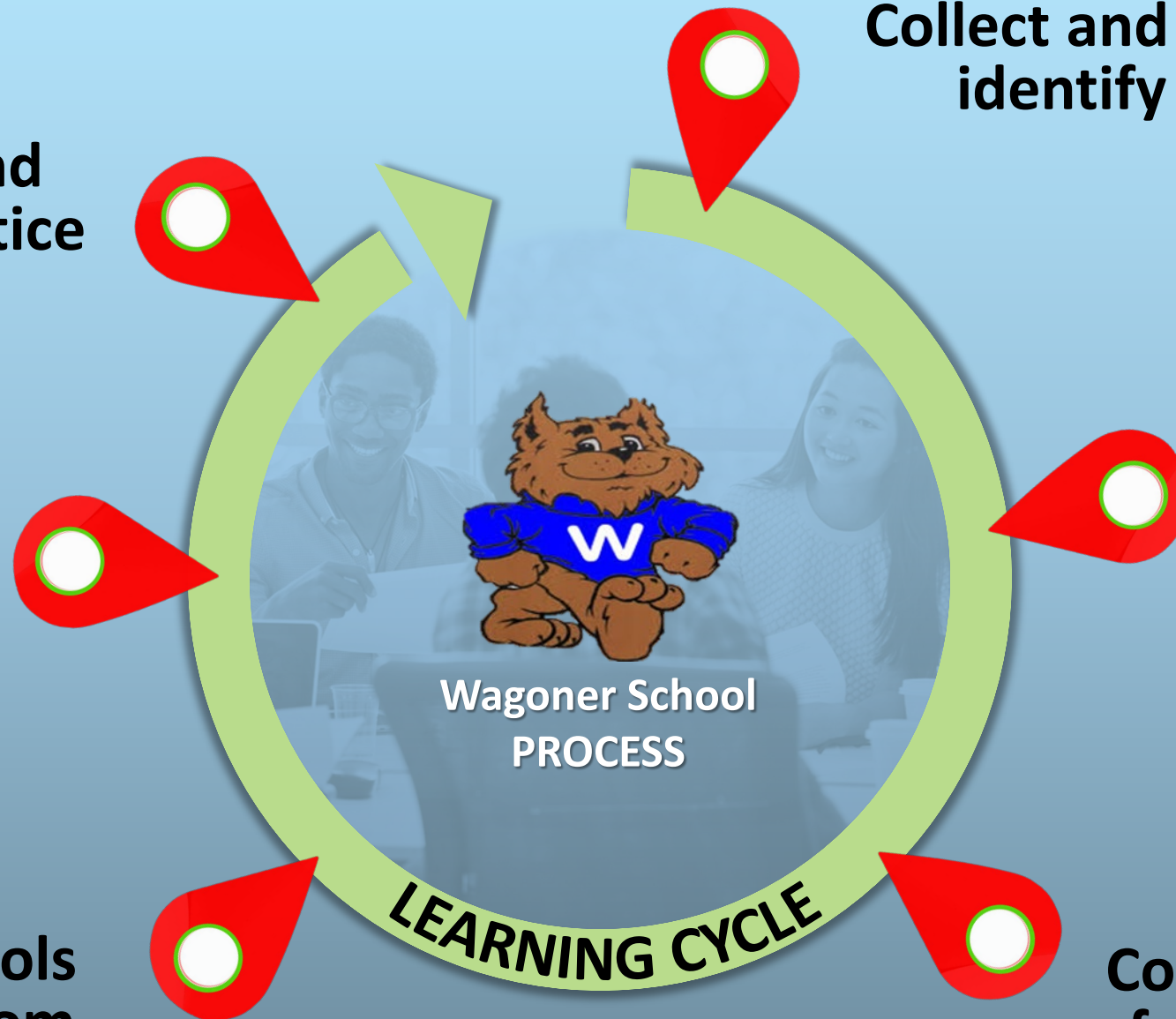
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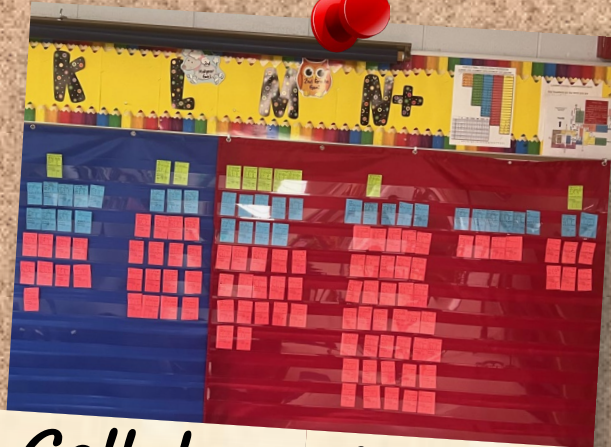
**Reflect and  
refine practice**



# What Was the Process Like?



Enjoyable and Engaging



Collaborative and Data-Driven



Developed the Skills of All Teachers—Novice to Experienced



Personalized Coaching and Mentoring



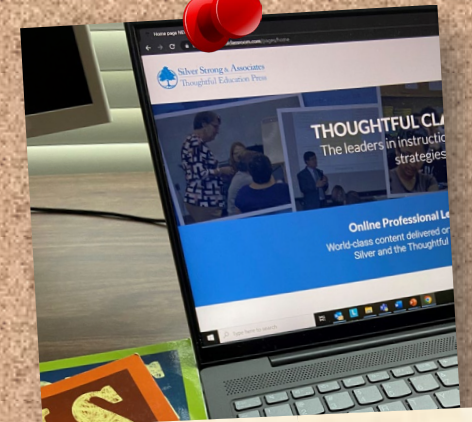
Fully Supported



Relationship Building



Motivational



Resources were easy to use—and worked!

# What Were the Results?



**Wagoner School**

[www.ThoughtfulClassroom.com/il-empower](http://www.ThoughtfulClassroom.com/il-empower)

# Illinois 5Essentials Survey

Wagoner  
Elementary  
School growth  
from 2019 to  
2023, plus the  
2023 Illinois  
state average

## 5Essentials Survey | Wagoner Elementary School Results for 2019 vs. 2023 (with 2023 Illinois State Average)

Category	Wagoner SY 2019	Wagoner SY 2023	Illinois Average SY 2023
<i>AMBITIOUS INSTRUCTION</i>	30	<b>94</b>	55
Quality of Student Discussion	20	<b>94</b>	40
<i>EFFECTIVE LEADERS</i>	48	<b>80</b>	47
Instructional Leadership	45	<b>91</b>	46
Program Coherence	57	<b>90</b>	51
Teacher Influence	41	<b>70</b>	42
Teacher Principal Trust	47	<b>70</b>	46
<i>COLLABORATIVE TEACHERS</i>	32	<b>80</b>	41
Collaborative Practices	26	<b>99</b>	37
Collective Responsibility	35	<b>74</b>	35
Quality of Professional Development	50	<b>99</b>	47
School Commitment	19	<b>54</b>	37
Teacher to Teacher Trust	29	<b>72</b>	48
<i>INVOLVED FAMILIES</i>	35	<b>86</b>	52
Parent Influence on Decision Making in Schools	64	<b>99</b>	55
Parent Involvement	22	<b>77</b>	55
Teacher Parent Trust	18	<b>83</b>	46
<i>SUPPLEMENTAL MEASURES</i>	33	<b>70</b>	46
Socialization of New Teachers	69	<b>99</b>	84
Reflective Dialogue	62	<b>93</b>	39
Innovation	36	<b>86</b>	36
Student Responsibility	6	<b>49</b>	39
Teacher Safety	1	<b>37</b>	29
Classroom Disruption	23	<b>56</b>	48

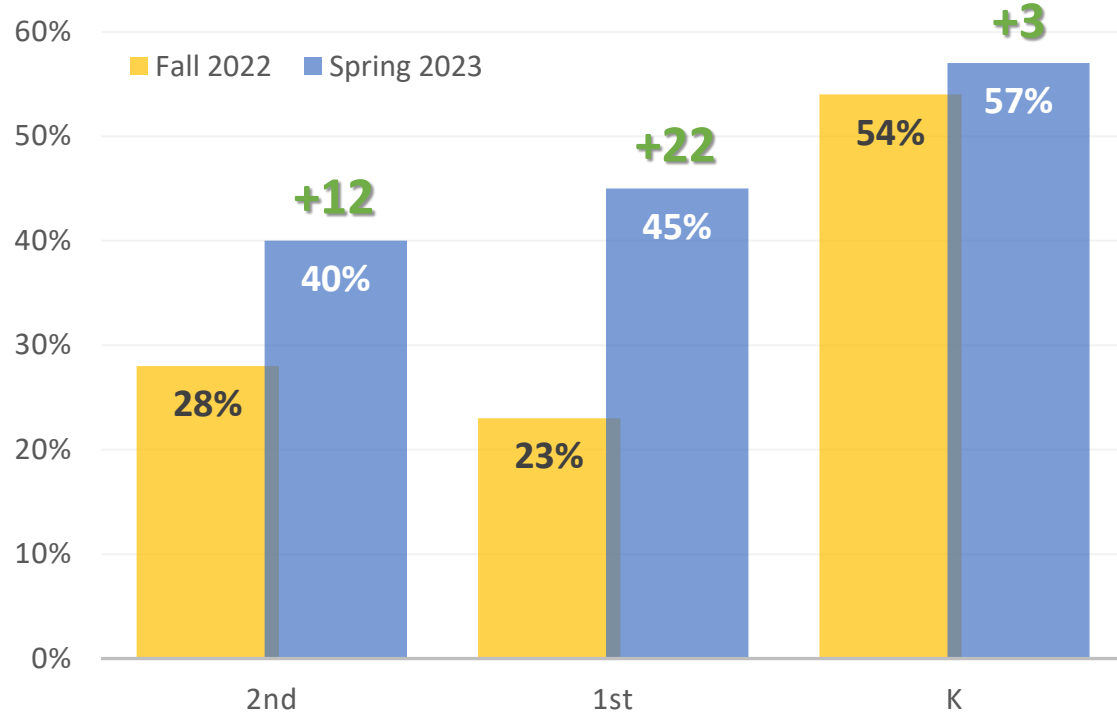
	Wagoner 2019	Wagoner 2023	Illinois 2023	
<b>AMBITIOUS INSTRUCTION</b>	30	94	55	+64
Quality of Student Discussion	20	94	55	+74
<b>EFFECTIVE LEADERS</b>	48	80	47	
Instructional Leadership	45	91	46	+46
Program Conference	57	90	51	
Teacher Influence	41	70	42	
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**Illinois 5Essentials Survey**  
Wagoner Elementary School **growth from 2019 to 2023,**  
plus the 2023 Illinois state average

**NWEA Map  
Wagoner Growth  
in Grades K-2  
Fall '22 > Spring '23**

**Wagoner ES | READING | 22-23 School Year**

NWEA Map | Achievement Levels Scoring >41<sup>st</sup> Percentile



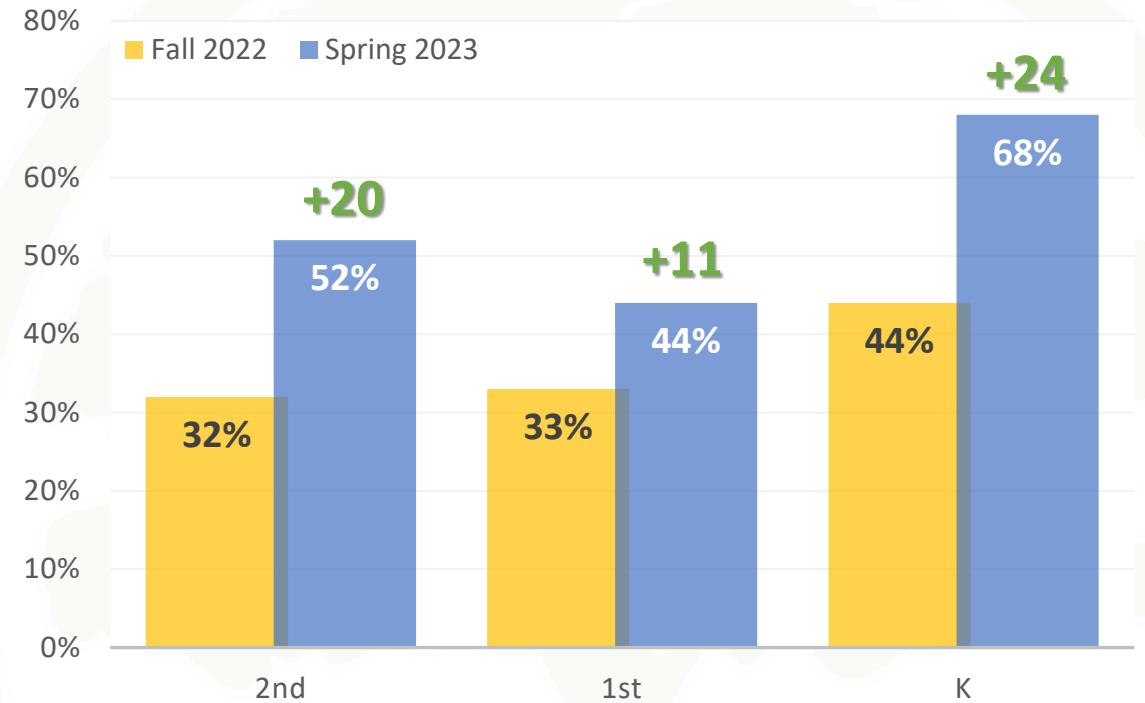
**READING | 2022-2023 School Year**

NWEA Map | Achievement Levels Scoring >41<sup>st</sup> Percentile

Grade	Fall 2022	Spring 2023	Increase ↑
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	28%	40%	+ 12%
1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	23%	45%	+ 22%
Kindergarten	54%	57%	+ 3%

**Wagoner ES | MATH | 22-23 School Year**

NWEA Map | Achievement Levels Scoring >41<sup>st</sup> Percentile



**MATH | 2022-2023 School Year**

NWEA Map | Achievement Levels Scoring >41<sup>st</sup> Percentile

Grade	Fall 2022	Spring 2023	Increase ↑
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	32%	52%	+ 20%
1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	33%	44%	+ 11%
Kindergarten	44%	68%	+ 24%

# Thank You!



Learn more and let's connect at . . .  
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ISBE WEBSITE | <https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Learning-Partners-CSI.aspx>

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