

FY 2025 School/District Improvement

Newly Designated Schools in Improvement Status: Information for Districts and Schools

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Dr. Nikki Combs

Director
School/District Improvement

Mr. Nick Heckel

Supervisor
School/District Improvement

Dr. Trevor Chapman

Lead
School/District Improvement

Mrs. Camilla Stewart

School Improvement Coordinator
School/District Improvement

Dr. Kathy Moesch

School Improvement Coordinator
School/District Improvement

Mr. Merle Siefken

School Improvement Coordinator
School/District Improvement

Mrs. Casey Wills

School Improvement Coordinator
School/District Improvement

Mr. Caprice Walters

School Improvement Coordinator
School/District Improvement

Mrs. Krystina Kelley

School Improvement Coordinator
School/District Improvement

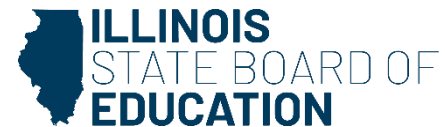
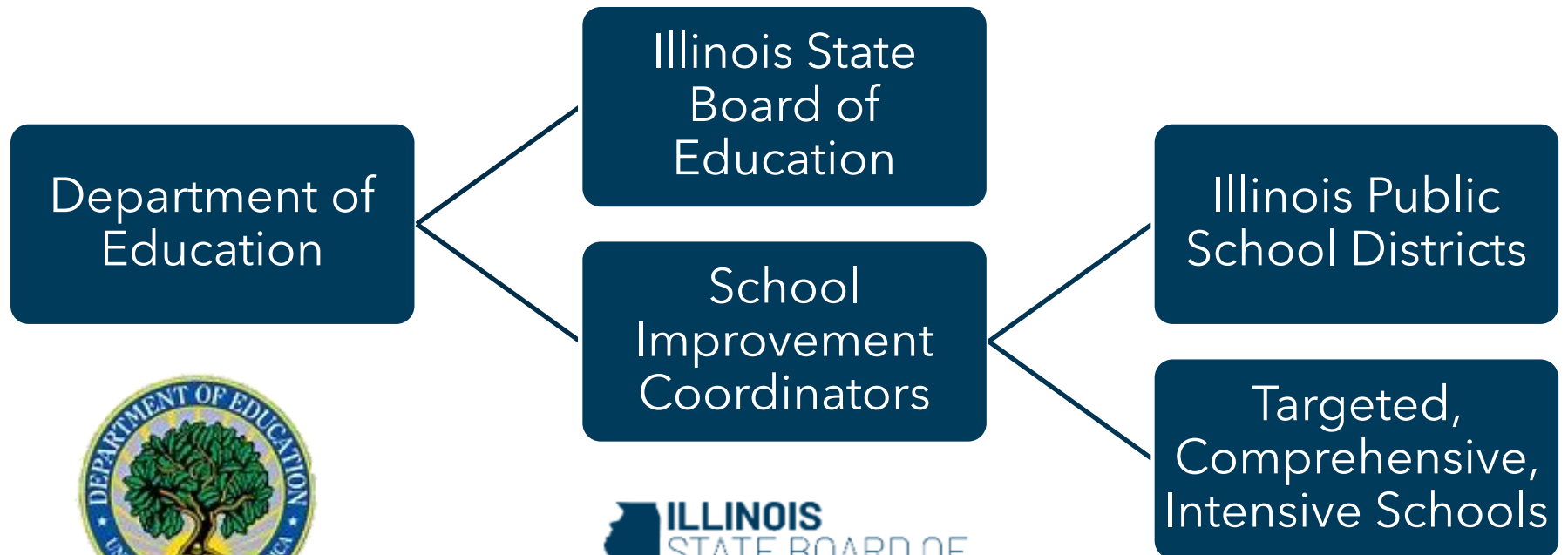




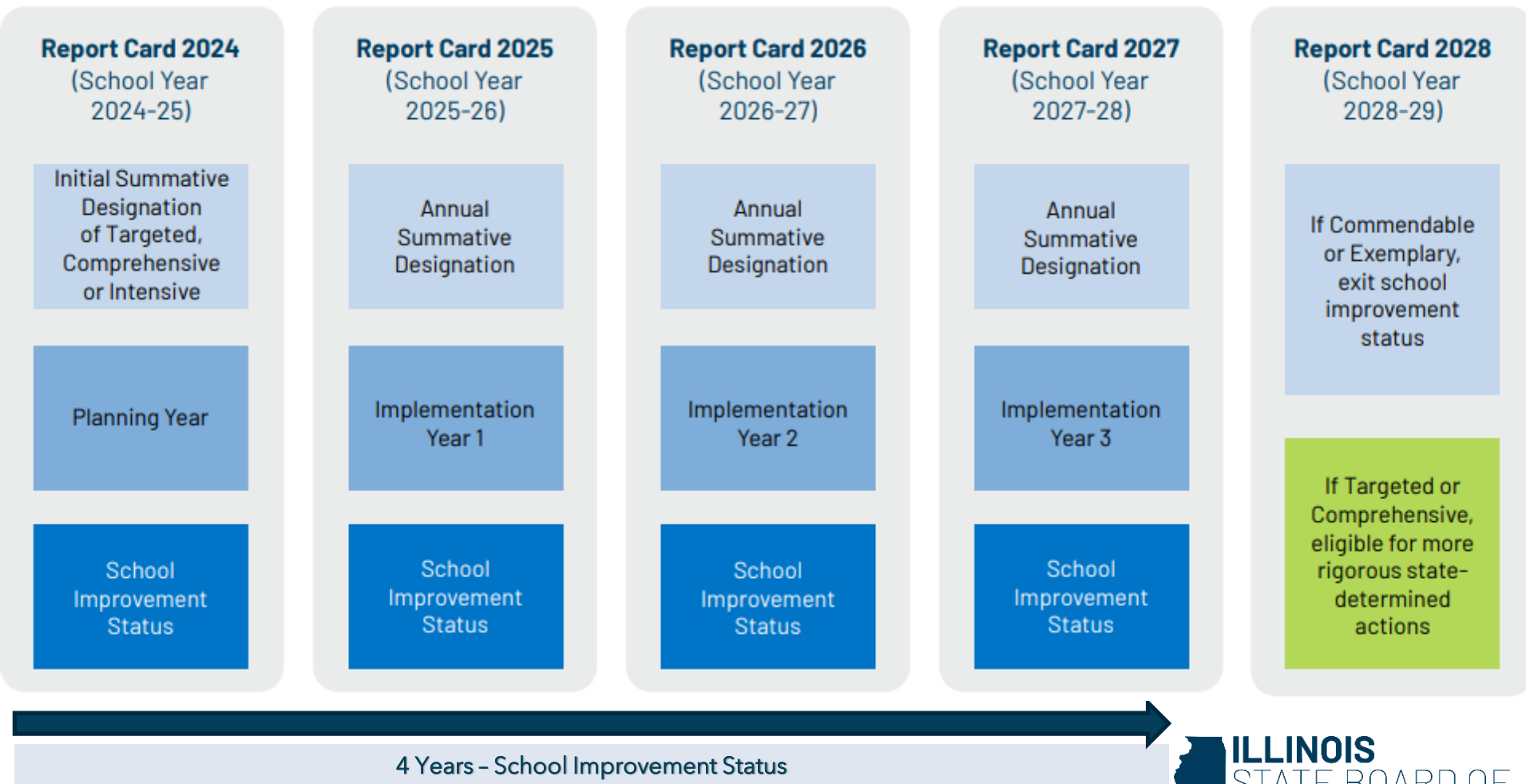
Explain the Statewide
System of Support

Relate how the Statewide
System of Support can
build the capacity of school
leaders to implement and
sustain effective school
improvement practices

School Improvement Program Org Chart



What is School Improvement Status?



What is Continuous School Improvement?

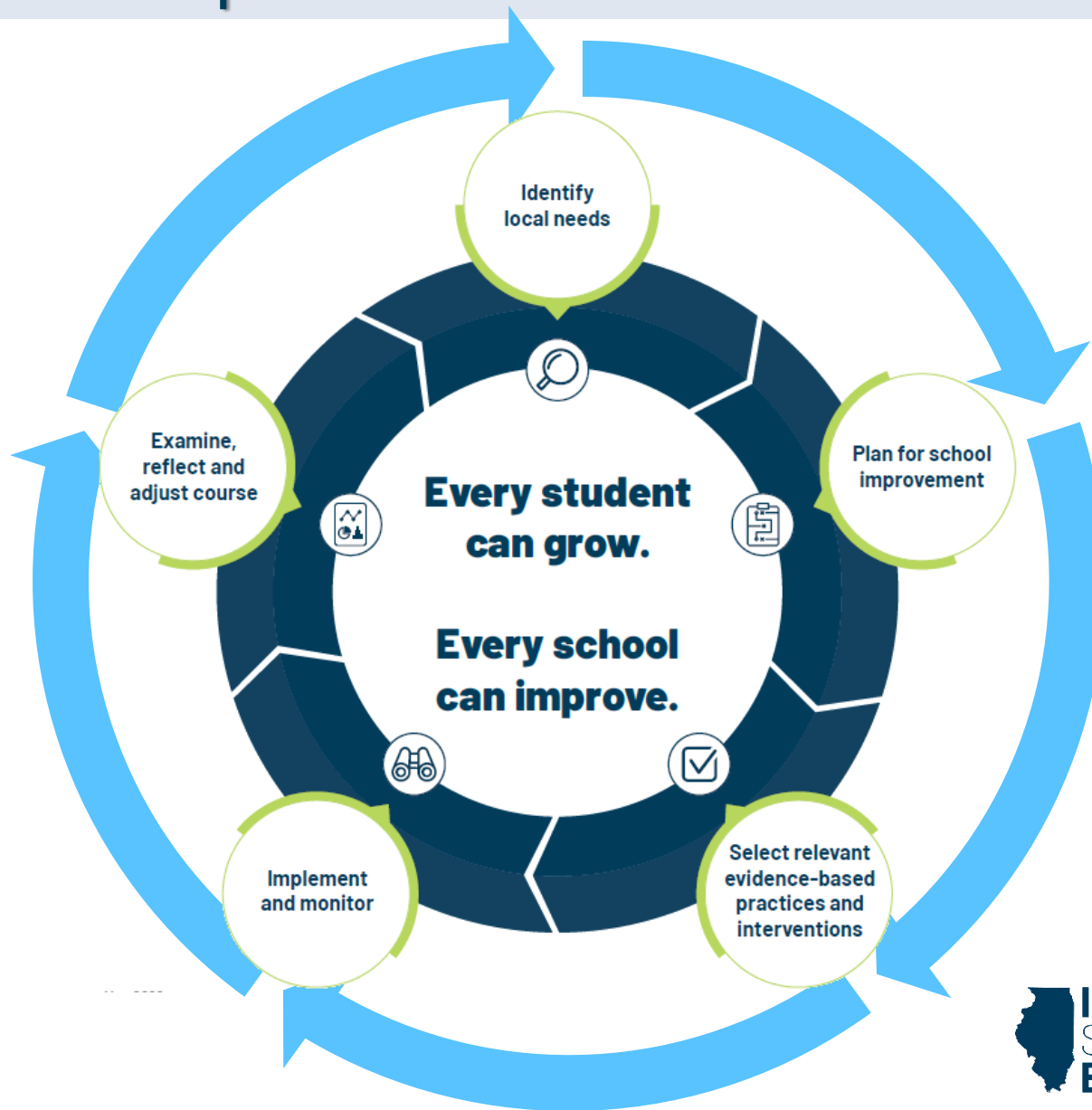


Collaborative process through which staff and stakeholders identify strengths and weaknesses of the entire school program.



Use the information as a basis for making deliberate, positive, cohesive, and observable changes in measurable student outcomes.

Continuous Improvement Model



What is the School Improvement Grant and for how long will my district receive funds?



Build the capacity of school leaders to implement and sustain effective school improvement practices.



Targeted: funds will be utilized for compensating staff for their work on the school-level needs assessment and various other school improvement planning efforts.



Comprehensive & Intensive: funds will be utilized to pay for the school-level needs assessment conducted by the American Institute for Research (AIR).



Examples of other school improvement practices include compensating staff to work on School Improvement Plans, review data, or conduct vertical and horizontal curriculum articulation activities, as well as releasing staff for collaborative planning time.

Supports for Schools in Targeted Improvement Status

Targeted

- Title I, Part A, Section 1003 School Improvement Grant Funds
- On-demand Learning Series + resources from the School/District Improvement website
- Technical Assistance from the School Improvement Helpline
- Regional Launch meetings that will take place in multiple locations across IL to help outline school improvement work

Additional Support for Comprehensive and Intensive Schools

Comprehensive and Intensive

- Title I, Part A, Section 1003 School Improvement Grant Funds
- On-demand Learning Series + resources from the School/District Improvement website
- Assigned School Improvement Coordinator
- School-level or more rigorous school-level needs assessment supported by AIR
- Schools within CPS will have an assigned School Improvement Specialist

Goals for the Planning Year:

- Identify Local Needs



School
Leadership
Team



Build a
stakeholder
advisory
group



Conduct a
school level
needs
assessment



Conduct a
root cause
analysis

Goals for the Planning Year:

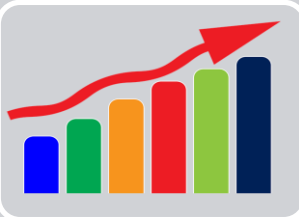
- Plan for School Improvement



SMART Goals



Key activities,
milestones,
timetables,
funding
sources,
people
responsible



Local
assessment(s)
to measure
academic
progress



Monitor plan

ESSA Resource Allocation Reviews (RAR)

ESSA includes a requirement for states to periodically conduct resource allocation reviews (RAR) in districts that have a significant number of schools identified for improvement - 1111(d)(3)(A)

RARs are a form of continuing support for school improvement; the review process encourages states and districts to make use of the per-pupil expenditure data on school report cards (also required by ESSA).

ISBE has collaborated with other states and partners (including the Region 9 Comprehensive Center) to develop and pilot its RAR process. Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, RARs were required for certain districts and will continue to be moving forward.

School Finances: Site-Based Expenditures

Average spending per student at each school in the district, as collected through the unaudited Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Site-Based Expenditure Report. Districts report the actual dollars spent in the previous school year, including site-level costs (like school staff) and district-wide centralized costs allocated to each individual school (like transportation and central office staff), divided by the school's enrollment. Districts also report whether federal or state/local sources funded the spending. [Learn More](#)

2022

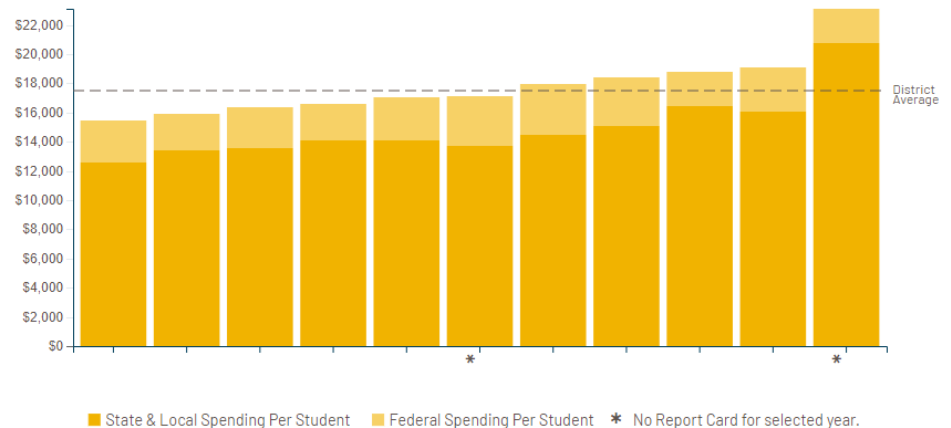
Bar Chart

Scatterplot

SELECT: ☐ Overall ☒ Source of Funds ☐ Expenditure Type

School Type

☐ Show school names



Percent of Adequacy = 69.80%

Vision – FY 2025

Resource Allocation Reviews will support districts in evaluating and improving how they distribute resources to schools, based on clear, research-based, and generalizable standards of practice:

An effective resource allocation system will have the following properties:

- **Equitable:** Provides resources based on the needs of students and schools such that those with higher needs receive additional resources.
- **Transparent:** Provides resources through a simple, well-defined, and clearly documented process such that stakeholders understand how resources are allocated to schools and how resource levels are differentiated.
- **Engages stakeholders:** Allows for input in the budgeting and planning process from various education stakeholders, such as school site leaders and staff, parents, and community members.
- **Aligns with district goals and priorities:** Integrates and aligns with planning and school improvement processes, focuses on improving student outcomes, and offers flexibility to be responsive to new or shifting goals and priorities.

RAR Structure – FY 2025

Before

- Intro call – program goals, participants, timelines
- Collect and review evidence of practice
- Share data report and protocol with district

During

- Facilitate discussion of evidence (provided by district) and data (provided by ISBE)
- Support evaluation of current practice relative to standards

After

- Summary report and resources
- Over time, connect districts to technical assistance aligned with areas of need

2024-2025 RAR Timeline



Notification (December 1-15)

- ISBE selects districts for state-led RAR. Districts are notified via email.
- Districts schedule 30-minute intro calls with ISBE staff



Resource Review (February-March 2025)

- District staff and school leaders participate in a RAR, facilitated by ISBE
- District participants complete a brief follow up survey
- ISBE shares a post-RAR report along with a resource bank to guide improvements



Preparation (January 2025)

- District and ISBE staff complete an intro call to understand program component and next steps
- District staff deliver requested materials to ISBE
- ISBE prepares an RAR report for the district



Follow Up (6 months-1 year later)

ISBE staff will follow back up with district to gather feedback, assess district changes, and improve the RAR program

School Improvement Coordinators

- **Work Directly with Intensive and Comprehensive Schools**
- **Expertise in School Improvement**
- **Technical Assistance to ALL Schools**

School Improvement Webinars

School Improvement On-Demand Learning Series

School Improvement Resources

- **School Improvement Common Language**
- **Continuous Improvement Model**
- **School Improvement Plan Template**
(optional for TSI & CSI schools, required for ISI)
- **SMART Goals**
- **A Year in the Life of School Improvement**
- **On-Demand Learning Series**
- **Monthly Topics & Tasks**

How can the Statewide System of Support assist with School Improvement in your schools?

Requirements for All Schools in Improvement Status

Targeted Comprehensive Intensive

- Rest of State: Complete the Illinois Quality Framework Supporting Rubric; Chicago Public Schools: Complete Foundations
- Use additional data to complete a school level needs assessment
- Identify resource inequities
- The School Improvement Plan includes at least 2 academic student goals
- Evidence-based practices are selected
- The School Improvement Plan is approved by the local Board of Education

Additional Requirements for Comprehensive and Intensive Schools

Comprehensive Support and Improvement

- All previous requirements plus,
- School-level needs assessment with AIR
- The School Improvement Plan is approved by the local Board of Education and by ISBE
- The School Improvement Plan is monitored by the LEA and ISBE

Intensive Support and Improvement

- All previous requirements plus,
- More rigorous needs assessment with AIR
- Use of the ISBE School Improvement Plan Template
- Implement Tier 1, standards-aligned curriculum
- **2024-2025 School Year:**
 - Follow a standard protocol of progress monitoring and regularly reporting to their BOEs, to the public, and to ISBE about progress on leading performance indicators
 - Board members of districts with schools designated as Intensive Support will complete training provided by the Illinois Association of School Boards and ISBE on effectively supporting school improvement.

Where can I find more information about school improvement?

[Home](#) > [Regional Services & School Improvement](#) > [School and District Improvement](#)


REGIONAL SERVICES & SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

School and District Improvement

- [Learning Partners](#)
- [School Improvement On-Demand Learning Series](#)
- [Continuous School Improvement - Statewide System of Support](#)

REGIONAL SERVICES & SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT SCHOOL AND DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT






The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has developed a [Continuous School Improvement Model](#) , which is a systematic process aimed at enhancing student outcomes through ongoing reflection, adaptation, and refinement. This model is the foundation of school improvement efforts for all schools.

Schools in Improvement
Status

School Improvement On-
Demand Learning Series

RESOURCES

- [Continuous School Improvement Model](#) 
- [School Improvement Common Language](#) 
- [District Strategic Plan Vs. School Improvement Plan](#) 

School Improvement Resources

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School Improvement On-Demand Learning Series

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REGIONAL SERVICES & SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT School and District Improvement

School Improvement On-Demand Learning Series

REGIONAL SERVICES & SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT ON-DEMAND LEARNING SERIES

- **An Introduction to Continuous School Improvement** 🎥 (9-minute video) - This video is a brief overview of continuous school improvement and the Statewide System of Supports.
 - [Presentation](#) 📄
- **A Year in the Life and Monthly Topics in School Improvement** 🎥 (6-minute video) - This video highlights the month-by-month timeline for school improvement called A Year in the Life. The companion resource, Monthly Topics in School Improvement, provides essential questions at the center of school improvement that district and school leaders should use to engage with stakeholders.
 - [Presentation](#) 📄
- **Identifying the School Leadership Team** 🎥 (6-minute video) - This video will help schools form a School Leadership Team whose focus is to develop, implement, monitor, and evaluate the School Improvement Plan.
 - [Presentation](#) 📄
- **Using Summative Designation Reports to Get Started with School Improvement** 🎥 - Understanding the summative designation report is an important step in getting started with school improvement and identifying local needs. This 14-minute video will assist you in accessing and understanding your school's reports.
- **Conducting a School Level Needs Assessment** 🎥 (4-minute video) - This video introduces the school-level needs assessment which is administered during the planning year and is used to launch school improvement planning processes.
 - [Presentation](#) 📄
- **Engaging in a Root Cause Analysis** 🎥 (6-minute video) - This video will assist the School Leadership Team in conducting a Root Cause Analysis.
 - [Presentation](#) 📄
- **Building a Stakeholder Advisory Group** 🎥 (4-minute video) - This video provides guidance for forming a Stakeholder Advisory Group and explains the role filled by the SAG.
 - [Presentation](#) 📄

Resources for Newly Designated Schools

I am looking for school improvement resources for ...



a Targeted
School



a Comprehensive
School



an Intensive
School

Comprehensive School -

- Overall performance in the bottom 5 percent of Title I-eligible schools statewide
- All high schools with a graduation rate of 67 percent or below
- Schools that have completed a full Targeted Support school improvement cycle, where the performance of one or more of the originally Targeted student groups remains at or below the level of the "all students" group in the lowest-performing 5 percent of Title I-eligible schools at the end of the four-year improvement cycle



Getting Started with School Improvement for Comprehensive Schools 

Upcoming Webinar

REGIONAL SERVICES & SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

School and District Improvement

- Learning Partners
- School Improvement On-Demand Learning Series
- Continuous School Improvement - Statewide System of Support

REGIONAL SERVICES & SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT SCHOOL AND DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT



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RESOURCES

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- School Improvement Common Language [📄](#)
- District Strategic Plan Vs. School Improvement Plan [📄](#)

Schools in Improvement Status

School Improvement On-Demand Learning Series

News and Updates

- Newly Designated School Webinar
 - [Register for the Newly Designated School Webinar on Monday, November 4, at 2 p.m.](#) [📅](#)
 - [Register for the Newly Designated School Webinar on Wednesday, November 6, at 9 a.m.](#) [📅](#)
- Planning Year Grant Application Webinar
 - [Register for the Planning Year Grant Application Webinar on Monday, November 25, at 2 p.m.](#) [📅](#)
 - [Register for the Planning Year Grant Application Webinar on Tuesday, November 26, at 9 a.m.](#) [📅](#)

What are your next steps?

Attend the FY 2025 School Improvement Planning Grant Application Webinar on Nov. 25 (2-3 p.m.) OR Nov. 26 (9-10 am).

Access the online getting-started checklists for Targeted, Comprehensive, and Intensive Schools.

Access the two Monthly Topics & Tasks and Year in the Life of School Improvement documents to assist you in laying out your plans.

Watch On-Demand Learning Series, that contains short videos to assist with school improvement efforts.

Schools with Comprehensive and Intensive designations can expect an email from AIR (ILNA@air.org) to initiate the school level needs assessment process.

Schools with Comprehensive and Intensive designations can expect an email from your assigned School/District Improvement Coordinator to schedule an initial meeting. Schools with a Targeted designation can expect an email from the Dept. Lead.

School Improvement Helpline



schoolimprovement@isbe.net

(217) 524-1817



Questions & Answers



schoolimprovement@isbe.net

(217) 524-1817