

## **Consortium for Educational Change (CEC) LEAD PARTNER**

Founded in 1987, CEC has dedicated itself for almost 30 years to assisting schools and districts through its twin pillars of *collaboration* and *capacity-building*. CEC's work in school districts is predicated on its ability to work with the “three anchors” — the board of education, the school administration, and the teacher' union. Years of experience and research have shown that this three-pronged approach is an essential precondition for sustainable school change.

CEC is an experienced SIG lead partner having worked with a number of Illinois schools and districts in the implementation of SIG. The CEC teams supporting SIG work are guided by the organization's vision which is to be a best practice exemplar of a system of support to build capacity in districts and schools in Illinois and across the country in order to move them to higher levels of performance. The work of SIG-support teams is built upon three CEC core values -- **Purposeful Collaboration, Research-based, Effective Practices and Interactive Partnerships.**

CEC SIG-support teams have identified a number of beliefs that are coherent with the overall mission and vision of CEC. These beliefs are reflected in the core values that provide the framework for CEC SIG-support team work with partnering schools and districts. These beliefs include:

- **All means all.** Every student can learn at high levels.
- **We own what we create.** All voices, including those of union members and leaders, must be in the conversations where we name and plan our work.
- **Effective leaders see themselves as learners.**
- **Every school is capable of improvement and excellence.** Teachers welcome the opportunity to improve practices that will enhance student learning.
- **Together, we all accomplish more when we collaborate.**
- **Students who own their own learning have the best chance to succeed.** A role of teachers is to partner with students to support their ownership of learning.

As a partner with schools and districts that strive to move to higher levels of performance, CEC's SIG-support teams build collaborative structures, processes, and cultures with and among key educational stakeholders, including labor and management, to transform educational systems to continuously improve student learning and achievement.