

Consortium for Educational Change (CEC) PLANNING AND PRE-IMPLEMENTATION

The Consortium for Educational Change (CEC) provides comprehensive supports to districts and schools as they engage in Planning and Pre-Implementation Activities. CEC's support in this area has three key features:

- **Collaborative Relationships**

CEC's work is firmly grounded in the concept that effective school change is only possible when the "three anchors" of the school board, school district leadership, and teachers union representatives are working effectively together. CEC works with SIG districts and schools, in addition to other schools and districts across the country, to develop and support this essential collaborative relationship.

- **Comprehensive System Assessments**

CEC's team can facilitate comprehensive audits of curricular areas (ELA, math, and others, as well as both regular and special ed) and systems (such as school and/or district policies and structures). CEC, with its partner SMART Learning Systems, also recommends school and district training on the SMART School Improvement Process. The training includes work off-site in a cohort and on-site coaching visits from a certified SMART school coach. CEC's system assessment process includes organizational self-study, written assessment, site visits, and collaboratively written feedback based on continuous improvement criteria that integrate with the Baldrige Performance Excellence Criteria, the Characteristics of a Professional Learning Community, or the 5Essentials for School Success.

- **Coaching and Training for Sustainable Implementation**

CEC helps SIG teams to form effective School and District Leadership teams to plan, implement, align, and sustain SIG transformation work. In addition, CEC is a leader in implementation of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) at the school level.

CEC's model is based on more than 20 years of work in schools in Illinois and nationally and is founded on research-based best practices, including the work of DuFour and Eaker, Charlotte Danielson, W. Patrick Dolan, Michael Fullan, Saul Rubinstein and others. CEC serves as the lead partner on several current SIG grants, and is a nationally recognized leader in the field of labor-management collaboration.