Accountability Redesign

Problems of Practice

1. Our accountability system for schools is **not criterion-based**. The goal posts move every year.

2. **Misleading data** (e.g., 70% of schools labeled "commendable") prevent our Statewide System of Support from directing resources to where they are needed most.

3. The system tells you that there is a problem (sort), **not what strategies or supports might be most helpful** in addressing the problem (inform).

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Vision

A STATEWIDE SYSTEM OF SUPPORT

in which *all districts & schools*

are engaged in cycles of

CONTINUOUS SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

regardless of designation

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Parameters

- Still want a single accountability system
- That must comply with ESSA requirements
- That addresses the three accountability problems of practice identified
- While retaining those features of the current system that appear to be working

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Accountability and ESSA

- Required indicators (sorting)
  - ELA proficiency
  - Math proficiency
  - English learner progress to proficiency
  - Graduation rate (high school)
  - ONE "other" academic indicator
    - ES/MS = Growth (48 of 50 states)
    - HS = Majority choose a college and career measure
  - ONE or MORE School Quality/Student Success (SQSS)
    - Chronic absenteeism
    - Climate survey
    - College and career readiness
    - Closing achievement gaps

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Five Requirements to Be an Indicator

1. The indicator(s) allows for **meaningful differentiation** in school performance.

2. The indicator(s) must be **valid and reliable**.

3. The indicator(s) must be **comparable and applicable statewide** within each grade span.

4. The indicator(s) must be **measured and reported annually for all students**.

5. The indicator(s) must be one that can be **disaggregated by student group**.

There are many indicators that are valuable for *informing school improvement* that don't meet the requirements or are inappropriate to be an ESSA indicator.

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IBAM and Topical Working Groups

When designing the first accountability system, ISBE collaborated extensively with IBAM, but also convened topical working groups to tackle questions which required technical or specialized knowledge and experience.

- How to best use the experience/expertise of IBAM?
- Where might we need topical working groups?

Expertise of IBAM

1. Indicators
   - Which indicators will be used to sort; which will be used to inform?
   - How will we set clear performance expectations (for those that sort) associated with each designation category?
   - What analyses would be most helpful for those used to inform?
2. Identification of Targeted student groups
   - Will indicators roll up to an index or will some other method be used?
3. Long term goals and measures of interim progress
   - Best considered after standard setting is complete

Topical Working Groups

- Chronic Absenteeism
  - What role, if any, should attendance (generally) and chronic absenteeism (specifically) play in the redesigned system?
- College and career readiness
  - What elements of the college and career readiness indicator should be incorporated into the system?
- Students With Disabilities
  - How can we design an ESSA compliant system that is better at differentiating between programs that serve these students well from those that do not?
- Improvements to the ELPtP indicator for middle & high schools
  - Middle and high schools are more likely to have students who are past their timeline target. How can we design an ESSA compliant system that is better at differentiation between programs that serve these students well from those that do not?

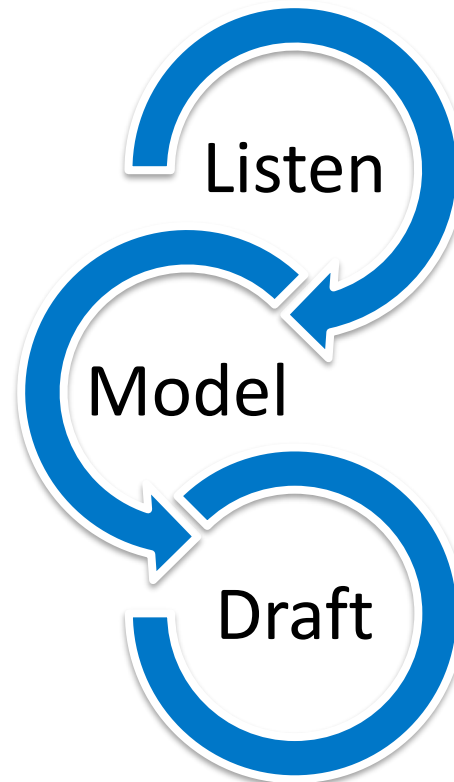**Are there other essential questions or recommended topical working groups?**

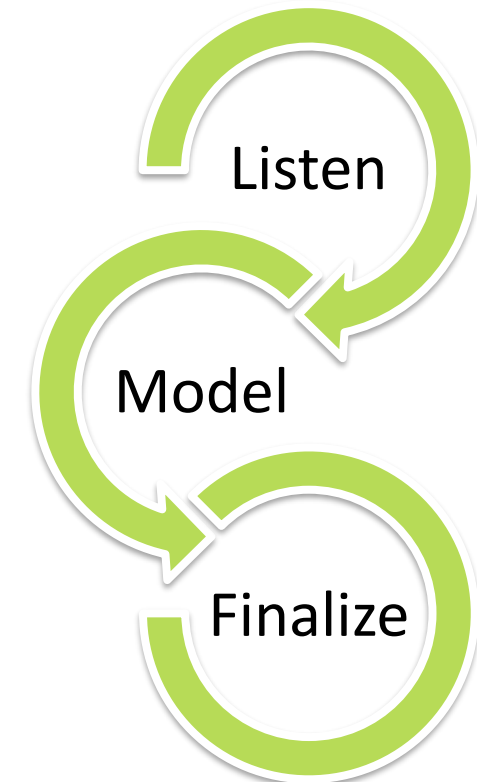# Accountability Redesign Process

Phase I

Listen

Model

Draft
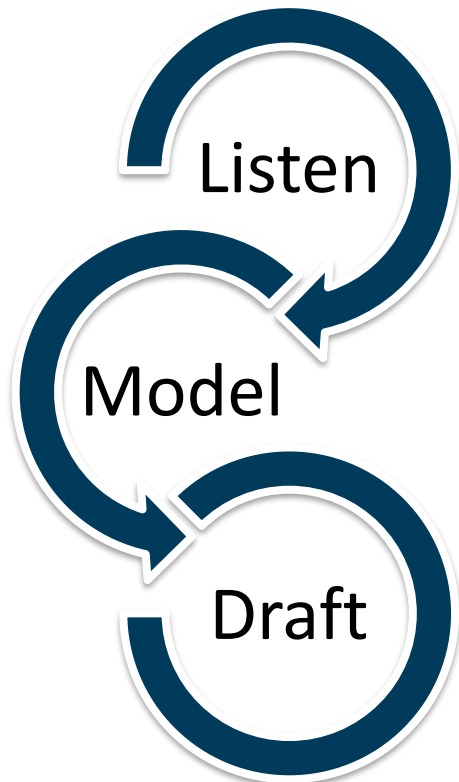
- **System structure**
- **Indicators**

Phase II

Listen

Model

Draft

- **Discussion continued**
- **+Specific indicators**

Phase III

Listen

Model

Finalize

- **Discussion continued**

Accountability Redesign Timeline

Academic SY25	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL
Accountability		Listen		💬		Model & Discuss		Model & Discuss		💬		...
		Model & Discuss		Model & Discuss								

Academic SY26	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL
Accountability		Final Drafting		💬		👥	👥	Submit to ED				Approved by ED

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