ESSA and Intervention: Opportunities and Requirements

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Overview

• ESSA school improvement requirements

• Systems-based approach to continuous improvement

• State plan examples of continuous improvement
Targeted support and improvement identification

• Any school with one or more consistently underperforming subgroups
• Any school with a subgroup performing at or below the performance of all students in the lowest performing schools
Comprehensive support and improvement identification

• At least the lowest-performing 5 percent of Title I schools
• All public high schools in the State failing to graduate one third or more of their students
• Schools formerly identified for targeted support that have not improved over a state-determined number of years
School improvement fund distribution

- Competitively and/or by formula
- Funds distributed to the LEA
- Sufficient amount to support districts to effectively implement the improvement plan
- Optional considerations:
  - School enrollment, identified needs, level of need, selected evidence-based interventions, other relevant factors
CSI Improvement Plans

- Informed by all indicators
- Includes evidence-based interventions
- Based on school needs assessment
- Identifies resource inequities
- Approved by school, LEA and SEA
TSI Improvement Plans

- Informed by all indicators & long-term goals
- Includes evidence-based interventions
- Approved by LEA
- Monitored by the LEA
- Results in additional action when needed
Critical question for states

How do you create a system of continuous improvement in which all schools have the support they need to help all students succeed?
School Improvement Domains

Wraparound Supports

School Climate

Staffing

Instruction
Critical question for states

How do you create a statewide, systemic strategy around these four domains?
Alignment with the State Accountability and Improvement System

• Accurate, transparent, and unified identification system
• Aligned theories of action
• Criteria for meaningful improvement
• Increased oversight and support for failure to improve
Information Systems

- Comprehensive set of data available to inform needs assessment
- Support for conducting comprehensive needs assessment
- Interpretation of data to inform selection of intervention
- Progress monitoring – ongoing data collection and analysis
Knowledge Dissemination

- Sharing of evidence-based interventions and practices focused on capacity building
- Available to all schools regardless of identification status
- Tiered levels of support depending on need
- Networks of support depending on issue
Learning Supports

- Pipeline for developing and supporting effective teachers and leaders
- Evidence-based, differentiated professional development and support
- Sufficient and efficient use of resources to support planning, restructuring, and improvement activities
Thoughtful Innovation and Evaluation

- Evaluation of interventions and strategies
- Scaling up of effective practices
- Embedded in policy so it becomes the norm rather than the exception
What state plans reflect these types of continuous improvement systems?

• New York
• Tennessee
• Massachusetts
• New Mexico
New York

• Training to districts to supports schools and data to inform plans and inequities
• Professional learning communities
• Clearinghouse of evidence-based interventions
• Progress reviews and pairing with “Recognition Schools”
• Professional development based on needs assessment and job-embedded
Tennessee

- Data “Deep Dives”
- Development of resource guides
- Office of School Improvement quarterly review
- School Improvement Support Network
- Tiers of intervention and support
- Equity and access to high quality educators
- “All Means All”
Massachusetts

- District interviews scored along rubric measures capacity to use evidence-based supports
- “Commissioner’s Districts” support 10 highest poverty districts
- Evidence-based example curricula for teacher candidates
- Descriptive and impact studies of turnaround work
New Mexico

- 6-step process for creating/guiding local teams to identify needs
- Online system for identification and planning of evidence-based interventions
- State- or nationally-based turnaround leader development program
- Benchmark reviews every 30/60/90 days
Thanks!

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