

Educational Landscape and Systems Analysis of Washington State

For Education Leaders



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The Center for Educational Effectiveness

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Purpose & Beneficiaries

The purpose of this educational landscape and systems analysis is to gain a deep understanding of the highly effective continuous improvement efforts that positively influence outcomes for Black, Latino, and students experiencing poverty within Washington's 295 school districts. This will produce a comprehensive analysis of access to essential data, the programs, partnerships, and systems elements driving the improvement. The knowledge gained from this project is intended to be used by school districts and their supporting professional organizations to enhance their local continuous improvement efforts.

Project Approach

CEE has a strong reputation of providing high quality independent evaluation and research grounded in literature while using culturally responsive frameworks. The project approach will utilize large datasets and onsite school visits that honor the local values, knowledge and histories of the diverse communities (schools, students, teachers and the families they

serve) within Washington State. This work will complement and support work being done by OSPI, The State Board of Education, and the other stakeholders in Washington State.

Benefits

- *Increasing awareness of and use of continuous improvement methods/approaches,*
- *Increasing access to data for comparison and benchmarking purposes, and*
- *Identifying successful approaches and determining the specific mechanisms that drive effectiveness along with model components, costs, etc., that are required for successful implementation.*

The study will be informed by the [Core Parameters for Continuous Improvement](#), the [Five Essentials of School Improvement](#), and the ongoing Gates foundation [Network Support Initiative](#). The Project Research Team will use two advisory teams (overall project and data analysis) comprised of state agencies, district-based practitioners, members from the community, and from the professional associations serving public education in Washington State.

Project Outcomes

This study will produce the following key outcomes:

1. *Deep insight* into schools across Washington State, as measured by indicators in [the Gates foundation's P-16 Framework](#), a comprehensive set of student critical milestones that matter most to educational success;
2. *Identification of exemplary* schools with Black, Latino, and students experiencing poverty that have made steep improvements over time in student performance and individual growth toward standard;
3. *Essential elements* of school improvement systems and effective continuous improvement processes including practices, programs, and partnerships contributing to improved student learning for Black, Latino, and students experiencing poverty;
4. *Identification of gaps* in the conditions needed to implement continuous improvement processes in Washington State districts, and
5. *Increased awareness* of effective practices that strengthen Washington State districts' ability to effectively do continuous improvement work.

Project Research Team

Greg Lobdell - CEE Chief Research Officer, Research Director

Janet Gordon, Ed. D. - Co-Research Director

John Steach, Ed. D. - CEE CEO, Project Researcher

Gene Sharratt, Ph. D. - Research team liaison to Gates foundation and Project Researcher

Project Timeline

This educational landscape and systems analysis will be completed by April 30, 2021.