



Improvement in education happens incrementally, and leading school districts have systems in place to learn and build on small successes. States play a crucial role in giving schools and districts the guidance and tools to implement a continuous improvement cycle.

This week's newsletter highlights states' policies and processes aimed at ensuring schools continuously improve to best meet student needs.

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State Spotlights



To carry out the **Arizona** Department of Education's vision of creating and sustaining effective schools through systemic changes, the department has developed numerous resources, guidebooks, trainings, and webinars to help local education agencies and districts make informed improvements in schools.

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Must Read



This document compiles questions from each of the “Deep Dives” into CCSSO’s *Principles of Effective School Improvement Systems*, which help state education leaders and other stakeholders identify key roles and responsibilities in the implementation and planning processes of their school improvement initiatives.

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Tools & Resources



Carey Wright, state superintendent in Mississippi and Tony Smith, state superintendent in Illinois, sit down with Education Commission of the States to discuss what it takes to improve schools.

These two chiefs provide some of the must-haves, including a clear vision, buy-in from stakeholders, strong leadership, connections to the community, and attention to equity.

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This NASBE resource discusses the crucial elements required to conduct rapid school improvement using a systems approach.

This tool highlights turnaround leadership, talent development, culture shift, and instructional transformation as pillars to improving schools.

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We want to hear from you!

Send your state's stories or organization's resources to communications@ccsso.org



The States Leading campaign celebrates the progress states are making toward providing equitable education for all students through the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and innovative policies in other key areas of education, such as early childhood education, teacher preparation, and career readiness, among others.

Thank you to our proud partners:

The Council of Chief State School Officers
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The National Association of State Boards of Education
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Our mailing address is:

One Massachusetts Avenue NW
Suite 700
Washington, DC 20001
202.336.7000

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