

## **School and District Improvement (SDI) Collaborative**

The School and District Improvement (SDI) collaborative supports state school and district improvement leads as they work with schools and districts to support the lowest-performing schools, close achievement gaps for all students, and increase support for specific subgroup populations. Members of this collaborative benefit from peer-to-peer networking, content expert advice, and access to the latest research to inform their state school improvement strategies.

### **2018-2019 Highlights**

In order to inform state strategy and advance school improvement implementation across states, SDI members participated in the following learning opportunities this year:

- Learned about high school redesign as an overall school improvement strategy from Dr. Robert Balfanz from Johns Hopkins University
- Learned about strategies for engaging with cross-agency team and leads to streamline processes for local education agencies and districts.
- Participated in a joint session with Accountability Systems and Reporting (ASR) to learn about supporting state communication directors as they communicated about school identification.
- Sessions on equity and how it ties into all aspects of school improvement with a specific focus on prioritizing equity through state school improvement planning and implementation including; an equity SWOT analysis by Annie Holmes, CCSSO Chief Equity Officer, and a session by Dr. Vanessa Coleman encouraging members to define their current role in terms of educational equity.
- Building on SDI's focus on equity and subsequent equity analysis, members have incorporated the equity commitments into their school improvement goals and intentionally prioritized state school improvement planning efforts and interoffice coordination to focus on their lowest performing schools.

### **2019-2020 Goals**

CCSSO is committed to helping states as they support school and district leaders to continuously improve schools. SDI strives to achieve this goal by working with states to develop systems of school improvement that focus on the roles districts play in improving every school.

- Develop a paper on the intersection of Equity, Evidence-Based Practices, and School Improvement.
- State members will develop 1-2 strategic goals specifically related to advancing equity in their states.
- Produce a resource on more rigorous options that states will use to support districts in providing the supports needed to schools who are not improving.
- Collaborate with experts to set goals for their state school improvement efforts with an explicit focus on support for CSI and TSI identified schools and identifying more rigorous options for schools that do not demonstrate improvement.
- Identify opportunities to advance equity and planning for state implementation to support improvement in schools identified as in need of comprehensive or targeted support.

Each meeting will include sessions explicitly focused on equity and the state's role in advancing it and by June of 2020, each collaborative member will have a strategy in place for advancing equity within their SEA and will have identified the biggest areas of need in advancing equity in their states and have a plan for addressing the need.

### **Anchor documents**

- [CCSSO Principles of Effective School Improvement Systems](#)
- [Roadmap to the Principles of Effective School Improvement Systems](#)

### **Biography of Advisor:**

**Rosalyn Rice-Harris** is Program Director for School Improvement at CCSSO and worked with school improvement initiatives as a former principal and district leader for Title I in Maryland and Virginia. She brings with her over 18 years of experience in public education, focusing on high-needs schools as a teacher, master teacher, coach, assistant principal, principal and district leader. Rosalyn holds a Bachelor of Science in History and Policy/Secondary Education from Carnegie Mellon University, and Master of Science in Education Administration from Trinity University. She is a graduate of the New Leaders principal preparation program and a certified NAESP Principal mentor.

### **2018-19 State Members Included:**

AK, AZ, AR, DE, GA, HI, IN, KS, KY, ME, MD, MI, MS, MO, NJ, OH, OK, OR, SD, UT

### **2018-19 Partners Included:**

AIR, Measured Progress, NWEA, Reading Recovery Council, WCEPS, WIDA

