

Critical Success Factors

The seven **CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS (CSFs)** with defining *milestones* are key components of successful schools.

--Academic Performance

Academic Performance is the foundational CSF. By focusing on *data driven instruction* that targets the use of *on-going monitoring of instruction*, schools can increase performance for all students. *Curricular alignment, both horizontally and vertically*, is also an essential component of this CSF.

--Use of Quality Data to Drive Instruction

Use Quality Data to Drive Instruction emphasizes *data disaggregation training* and *ongoing communication of data* to improve student learning outcomes. A focus of this CSF is *utilizing data to drive decisions*.

--Leadership Effectiveness

Leadership Effectiveness targets the need for leadership on the campus to exercise *operational flexibility* and the *effective use of data and resources*. Providing *job-embedded professional development* to build capacity of campus leaders is a vital part of this CSF.

--Increased Learning Time

Increased Learning Time necessitates *flexible scheduling* that allows time for additional instructional minutes, enrichment activities and *staff collaborative planning time*. This CSF also confirms as a requisite, an *instructionally focused calendar*.

--Family and Community Engagement

Family and Community Engagement calls for *increased opportunities for input* from parents and the community, as well as the necessity for *effective communication* and *access to community services*.

--School Climate

School Climate recognizes *increased attendance* and *reduced discipline referrals* as indicators of a positive and welcoming environment. *Increased attendance in extracurricular activities* is another sign that your students feel supported by an affirming school climate.

--Teacher Quality

Teacher Quality focuses on the need to *recruit and retain effective teachers* while also supporting current staff with *job-embedded professional development*. A *locally developed appraisal and evaluation system* informs personnel decisions in order to ensure quality teaching and learning.

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