

**Instructional core**: The core includes three interdependent components: teachers' knowledge and skill, students' engagement in their own learning, and academically challenging content.

**Theory of Change**: The organization's belief about the relationships between certain actions and desired outcomes, often phrased as an "if... then..." statement. This theory links the mission of increased performance for all students to the strategy the organization will use to achieve that goal.

**Strategy**: A coherent set of actions a district deliberately undertakes to strengthen the instructional core with the objective of raising student performance district-wide. Gaining coherence among actions at the district, school, and classroom levels will make a district's chosen strategy more scalable and sustainable.

**Stakeholders**: The people and groups inside and outside of the district - district and school staff, governing bodies, unions and associations, parents and parent organizations, civic and community leaders and organizations.

**Culture**: The predominant norms, values, and attitudes that define and drive behavior in the district.

- Structure: Structures help define how the work of the district gets done. It includes how people are organized, who has responsibility and accountability for results, and who makes or influences decisions. Structures can be both formal (deliberately established organizational forms) and informal (the way decisions get made or the way people work and interact outside of formal channels).
- Systems: School districts manage themselves through a variety of systems, which are the processes and procedures through which work gets done. Systems are built around such important functions as career development and promotion, compensation, student assignment, resource allocation, organizational learning, and measurement and accountability. Most practically, systems help people feel like they do not have to "reinvent the wheel" when they need to get an important, and often multi-step, task done.
- Resources: Managing the flow of financial resources throughout the organization is important, but resources also include people and physical assets such as technology and data. When school districts carefully manage their most valuable resource--people--and understand what investments in technology and data systems are necessary to better support teaching and learning, the entire organization is brought closer to coherence.
- Environment: A district's environment includes all the external factors that can have an impact on strategy, operations, and performance (i.e. regulations and statutes, contracts, funding and politics

- Academic Success
- Citizenship
- Resiliency
- Imagination and Creativity

- Alignment of UN Global Sustainability Goals with curriculum and learning opportunities for students
- Building a culture of students as learning leaders
- Bringing criteria for effective learning environments to scale
- Development of skills and competencies as "Curriculum"

