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Serving the counties of Allen, Auglaize, Champaign, Hardin, Logan, Mercer and Shelby.

## **A Parent's Quick Guide to The Ohio Improvement Process (OIP)**

### **OVERVIEW**

The Ohio Improvement Process (OIP) is Ohio's foundation for school improvement. The overall purpose of the OIP is for leadership teams to use data to drive decision-making that identifies strategies to improve teaching and learning.

The OIP involves team collaboration at the district, building, and teacher levels. Leadership teams may include stakeholders from the school and community, such as administrators, teachers, business members, and parents.

In the OIP, there are four stages, across which processes, structures, tools, and people are connected, all with the intent of helping districts.

#### Four Stages in the Ohio Improvement Process

1. Using data to identify areas of greatest need
2. Developing a focused plan with a limited number of goals and strategies targeted at instructional practice and student performance
3. Implementing and monitoring
4. Evaluating the effectiveness of the improvement process in changing instructional practice and student performance.

## TERMINOLOGY

*Vision* - An understanding of what the district wants to create (picture of the future) shared by stakeholders who are committed to its realization

*Mission* - The district's purpose or reason it exists. Fulfilling the mission is how a district realizes its vision.

*Focused Plan* - A blueprint for improvement based on identified needs that directs all district work and resources. It includes goals, strategies and monitoring indicators, and actions.

*Leadership Teams* - District Leadership Team (DLT); Community School Leadership Team (CSLT); Building Leadership Teams (BLT): Teams of individuals who promote a culture of common expectations or commitment by maintaining a district-wide and school-wide focus on improving student achievement

*Monitoring* - The practice that DLTs and BLTs use to supervise the plan in progress to ensure the tasks, actions, and strategies are on-course and on-schedule in meeting goals as measured by progress against indicators

*Stakeholder* - Anyone who affects or is affected by the success of the district including students, teachers, paraprofessionals, support staff, school administrators, family members, school board members, community leaders, local business and industry representatives, and citizens who live in the community(ies)

*Teacher-Based Teams (TBTs)* - Teams comprised of teachers working together to improve instructional practice and student learning through shared work. TBTs follow a common set of guidelines described in a 5-step process connected directly to the focused goals, strategies, and actions described in the school improvement plan.

*The 5-Step Process* - Data analysis process using student assessment data to determine student learning needs and best teaching strategies to meet their needs

## WHAT YOU MAY WANT TO KNOW

Community members may be asked to serve as contributing members on DLTs and BLTs to:

- Identify areas for improvement using district or building data
- Use data to identify major strengths, as well as problems and causes
- Develop a limited number of priorities to assist in developing a continuous improvement plan to improve the educational outcomes for all students
- Monitor the implementation and impact of the plan
- Evaluate successes and identify needs for revision in the district or building plans

As a member of a leadership team, a parent would be asked to:

- Provide the perspective as a parent who is not school personnel but maintain a broader perspective than that of your individual student(s)
- Honor the norms of the team which may include:
  - Maintain confidentiality of any district or school information shared at the meeting
  - Participate fully as an active member of the team
  - Commit to attending scheduled meetings

## PARENT CONSIDERATIONS

Prior to committing to serve on the DLT or a BLT in your district, you may want to ask the following questions:

- What will I be asked to do? What are my responsibilities?
- How long am I committing to serve as a team member?
- Is the focused plan already developed and/or implemented?
- In what stage of the OIP is the district or building currently?

## RESOURCES

Ohio Department of Education – [www.education.ohio.gov](http://www.education.ohio.gov) Ohio

Leadership Advisor Council – [www.Ohioleadership.org](http://www.Ohioleadership.org)

State Support Team Region 6 – [sst6.org](http://sst6.org)

The Local School District