“Lighting the Path to Student Success”

Introduction to NCStar

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Outcomes

Understand
NCStar fosters school improvement planning as a continuous process that is based on data-driven decision making to assess, create, and monitor effective practices needed to support student achievement.

Know:
- NCStar
- Key Indicator
- Create, Assess, Monitor
- NCStar platform

Do:
Use the NCStar platform for school improvement planning to assess, create, and monitor systems and structures needed to support student achievement.
Agenda

- Introductions
- NCStar Weebly
- What is NCStar?
- Who has Access?
- NCStar Vocabulary
- School Improvement Then and Now
- Key Indicators
- Looking at the NCStar Platform
  - Home Page
  - Our Direction
  - Success Cycle
- Final Reflection
- Individual Exploration
- Q & A

Q & A

Ask us a question!

Go to www.menti.com

Code: 59 48 00 5
Our NCStar Weebly

www.ncstar.weebly.com

NCStar® is a web-based tool that guides a district or school Leadership Team in charting its improvement and managing the continuous improvement process.
NCStar Vocabulary

- **Comprehensive Report** – the School Improvement Plan
- **Indicator** – research based effective practice related to an area of school improvement.
- **Wise Ways** – research-based evidence and examples that help the SIT team assess each indicator.
- **Objective** – an indicator chosen to be included in the SIP. Once Indicator has been assessed, it is now called an objective through the school improvement process.
- **Actions** – an action step that is necessary in order to achieve the objective.
- **Process Manager** – the individual at a school that will assist the Principal in managing the school improvement process.

Who Has Access?

- **Principal/Process Manager**
  - Full Editable Access
  - Assess/Create-Monitor
  - Documents Upload
  - WiseWays
  - ALL Reports
  - ALL Worksheets
  - Reply to Coaching
  - Agendas + Minutes

- **Leadership Team / SIT**
  - View Only Access to everything the Principal or Process Manager sees
  - In Document Upload will only see those documents that have been "SHARED"

- **District Support & Improvement Team**
  - View Only Access to everything the Principal or Process Manager sees
  - Provide Coaching Comments
  - Send Bulletin Board Messages

- **VISITOR**
  - Rest of Faculty
  - Parents/Guardians
  - School Board Members
  - Vision / Mission
  - Comprehensive Plan Report
  - Summary Report
  - SIT Member Names & Roles
  - SHARED Meeting Agendas / Minutes
Roadblocks to School Improvement

❖ A Desire to Please
❖ Personal Comfort
❖ Fear of the Unknown
❖ Passive Culture – No Sense of Urgency
❖ Waiting for the Right Moment
❖ School is Too Close to Home

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Modified from Jennifer Abrams’ Having Hard Conversations

2015 DATA: How Often Does Your School Revise/Edit The SIP Yearly?

- Over Fifteen Times: 1%
- Monthly: 12%
- Three to Five: 41%
- Never to Twice: 46%
Most SIP Plans......

NCStar® is a web-based tool that guides a district or school Leadership Team in charting its improvement and managing the continuous improvement process.
NCStar is NOT

A traditional school improvement plan

School Improvement Then and Now

Then

• Goal setting
  – Student outcome focused
  – Improving scores on standardized measures

• Review of plan
  – Stagnant
  – Compliance-based
School Improvement Then and Now

Now

**Plan Development + Implementation**

- Data-Driven Decisions
- Focus on Practice + Adult Actions
- Think Small

**Plan Evaluation**

- Occurs throughout the academic year ~ continuous process
- Progress captured and new objectives set
- School Improvement coaching supports from the district

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P.D.C.A. – Deming Cycle

[Diagram showing the Deming Cycle: Plan, Do, Check, Act]
The NCStar Continuous Improvement Cycle

ASSESSING An Indicator

- **No Development** - The desired practice is NOT ingrained in the institution

- **Limited Development** - The desired practice is ingrained in parts of the institution

- **Full Implementation/Completed** - The desired practice (or action step) is ingrained in the culture of the day-to-day work of the institution
Alignment of the 130 Indicators or “Research-Based Effective Practices”

**CNA Dimensions (Default Setting)**
- Instructional Excellence & Alignment
- Leadership Capacity
- Professional Capacity
- Planning & Operational Effectiveness
- Families & Communities

**Digital Learning Focus Areas**
- Leadership in Digital Learning
- Digital Citizenship
- Digital Content & Instruction
- Data & Assessment
- Vision & Strategy
- Content & Instruction
- Human Capacity & Culture
- Personal Growth & Connectedness
- Community

**MTSS Components**
- Three Tiered-Instructional / Intervention Model
- Leadership
- Data Evaluation
- Data-Based Problem Solving
- Building the Capacity / Infrastructure for Implementation
- Communication & Collaboration
- Families & Communities

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**School Team Meetings**

**Key Indicator B1.03**

NCStar users are required to have 2 meetings per month:

✔ Meeting #1 is the School Improvement Team

✔ Meeting #2 may be flexible in function (could be MTSS Team)
The 12 Key NCStar Indicators

**A1.07:** ALL teachers employ effective classroom management and reinforce classroom rules and procedures by positively teaching them.

**A2.04:** Instructional Teams develop standards-aligned units of instruction for each subject and grade level.

**A4.01:** The school implements a tiered instructional system that allows teachers to deliver evidence-based instruction aligned with the individual needs of students across all tiers.

**A4.06:** ALL teachers are attentive to students' emotional states, guide students in managing their emotions and arrange for supports and interventions.

**A4.16:** The school develops and implements consistent, intentional, and on-going plans to support student transitions for grade-to-grade and level-to-level.

**B1.01:** The LEA has an LEA Support & Improvement Team.

**B1.03:** A Leadership Team consisting of the principal, teachers who lead the Instructional Teams, and other professional staff meets regularly (at least twice a month) to review implementation of effective practices.

**B2.03:** The school has established a team structure among teachers with specific duties and time for instructional planning.
The 12 Key NCStar Indicators

**B3.03:** The principal monitors curriculum and classroom instruction regularly and provides timely, clear, constructive feedback to teachers.

**C2.01:** The LEA/School regularly looks at school performance data and aggregated classroom observation data and uses that data to make decisions about school improvement and professional development needs.

**C3.04:** The LEA/School has established a system of procedures and protocols for recruiting, evaluating, rewarding, and replacing staff.

**E1.06:** The school regularly communicates with parents/guardians about its expectations of them and the importance of the curriculum of the home (what parents can do at home to support their children's learning).

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**Accessing NCStar**

[**indistar.org**](http://indistar.org)

Indistar Login: ncschool10
Password: ncschool10
Final Reflection and Feedback

Please use the following link to provide a final reflection and feedback on today’s session.

http://bit.ly/Fall2020NCStar

Reach out to us! We’re here to help!

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Individual Exploration

indistar.org

- Use this time to explore and experiment with the NCStar platform
- 15 minutes
- Use the private chat function to send us questions

Use your school’s Login and Password

Public Schools of North Carolina