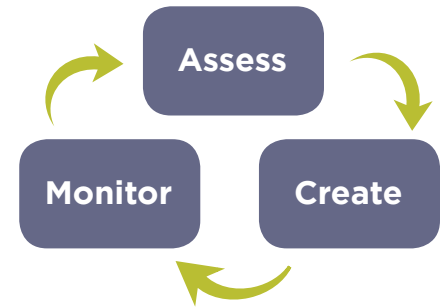


NCStar is a web-based tool that guides a district or school team in charting its improvement and managing the continuous improvement process. **NCStar** builds accountability as well as helps schools track their improvement plans. **NCStar** is premised on the firm belief that district and school improvement is best accomplished when directed by the people, working in teams, closest to the students.

NCStar requires a “culture of candor” in which district and school personnel talk openly and honestly about their professional practices that contribute to student learning.

Since school improvement is such a unique process for each school, **NCStar** contains over 100 research based effective practices (indicators) and allows schools flexibility to personalize their school improvement plans to meet their distinct needs.

NCStar brings all stakeholders into the continuous improvement process by allowing “view only” capability and “real time” transparency of the school improvement plan process to all staff, district personnel, school board members, and parents.



Innovation

- A structured step-by-step approach that guides high-quality school improvement work by school teams.

Research Alignment and Supporting Resources

- Effective practices are linked to related research, examples, and resources (Wise Ways[®] research briefs); video modules demonstrating the practices (Indicators in Action).

Capacity and Support

- Tool enables district’s capacity to support the improvement of its schools while directly guiding a school’s improvement activities.
- District Coaches are able to assist the teams with coaching comments and coaching reviews about the team’s ongoing work through real-time virtual coaching.

Documentation

- Practical documentation through built-in mechanisms for creating agendas, recording minutes, assigning responsibility, setting timelines, allocating resources, coaching, and monitoring degree of implementation.

Operational Data

- The “other side of the data equation” - the district, school, and classroom behaviors and practices that contribute to student learning. Adult performance must improve in order for student results to improve.

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