

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM UCLA CENTER

How well do your school improvement plans address barriers to learning and teaching (including re-engaging disconnected students)?

Here are three basic questions that every district and school needs to ask in reviewing their strategic plans.

(1) ***Intervention framework:*** Does the plan delineate an intervention design for unifying and then, over several years, developing a comprehensive system of student and learning supports?

If not, see

***>Toward Next Steps in School Improvement:
Addressing Barriers to Learning and Teaching***

<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/systemic/towardnextstep.pdf>

(2) ***Making it a reality:*** Does the plan focus on reworking the operational infrastructure to ensure effective leadership for moving forward in unifying and developing a comprehensive system of student and learning supports?

If not, see

>Leadership Infrastructure: Is What We Have What We Need?

<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/summit2002/tool%20infrastructure.pdf>

(This tool outlines a four step process that can be used by planners and decision makers to map and analyze how well current infrastructure provides essential leadership for unifying and developing a comprehensive system of student and learning supports.)

(3) ***Core Standards:*** Has the plan incorporated a set of essential core standards for learning supports?

If not, see

>Common Core Standards for a Learning Supports Component

<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/commcore.pdf>
(includes quality indicators)

Enhancing equity of opportunity requires a major rethinking of existing student and learning supports.

Our Center is working with leaders across the country to facilitate such efforts.

See information about the *National Initiative: New Directions for Student Support* at <http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/summit2002/ndannouncement.htm>