



Vision for School Improvement

NYSED’s goal is to shift school improvement resources, time and attention to ensure schools most in need get as much support as possible. The state is narrowing its primary focus to CSI schools (LEAs will take responsibility for improving TSI schools). With increased interactions and oversight over a smaller number of schools, NYSED can help more struggling schools improve.

Key Strategies

PROGRESS UPDATES: NYSED is refining its Diagnostic Tool for School and District Effectiveness, with a new version ready later this school year; a tool for on-site visits, the DTSDE is used to develop school specific feedback and recommendations.

CHALLENGES: NYSED is moving debates beyond the narrow, technical question of how to “count” in the state accountability system those students who opt out of testing to a focus on using ESSA’s framework to improve outcomes and equity of results.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE & COMPLIANCE

- **Templates and rubrics for improvement plans:** Developed (a) rubric to evaluate LEA application, (b) needs assessment rubrics, (c) CSI template plan [these are all part of state’s DSTDE protocols]
- **Professional development:** Entering into MOU’s with State University of New York and City University to create a “micro credential” for aspiring turnaround leaders of low-performing schools
- **Guidance:** Developed materials to explain the SI process to educators, families and community members, provided guidance to LEAs on (a) ESSA regulations (b) state’s actions to identify, support and intervene in CSI schools, (c) evidence-based SI approaches strategies aligned to ESSA requirements; hosting “Title Talk on Tuesday” informal conference calls each week to provide extended question and answer sessions on different elements of ESSA
- **Structures and processes:** Developed or updated processes to (a) provide feedback to LEAs on SI efforts, (b) work with regional service agencies to provide TA and (c) monitor progress

Key Updates

NEW POLICY/REGULATIONS: NY will have one state and federal accountability system; Board of Regents adopted new accountability regulations to conform with ESSA and state goals; CSI schools will be identified from bottom 10% of all schools (not only schools with Title I funds).

NEW SEA PRACTICE: NYSED expects SI interventions to look different each year, based on how each school is progressing; first year will focus on identifying barriers and creating plans, and subsequent years will focus more directly on coaching and making course-corrections.

Funding: Formula [initially]

For 2018-19, NYSED will allocate all school improvement funds by formula. For future years, it will set aside some funding for advancing promising practices and use a competitive process to award those grants.

State and School Needs

SEA

More capacity (inside SEA and with outside consultants) for supporting schools as much as possible

SCHOOLS

Explaining how all the pieces of ESSA and state reform priorities fit together

Implementation Timeline

Summer 2018

LEA SI grant application due

Fall 2018

Identify TSI & CSI schools; release state report card, with new data visualization tool for parents coming later in year

Winter 2019

Revised SI protocols and suggested evidence-based strategies finalized and disseminated (part of DSTDE); LEA resource allocation reviews