Diagnoses & Prescriptions

Increasing student achievement and improving school practice are the centerpieces of most strategic plans, and remedies are selected to close gaps between current performance and levels desired. The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and many state accountability plans require districts and schools to identify and use successful practice confirmed in research.

Schools use considerable data, but not those that tie the interactions among stakeholders with research-based systems in which performance strengths and vulnerabilities are distributed.

As former Superintendents, we understand there are many moving parts to consider when engaging your students, staff, families, community, and school board in performance improvement activities. We have created this checklist to show you how VitalInsight™ will improve your strategic planning efforts and make them less frustrating and more efficient and effective.

The following questions are related to challenges you face during performance improvement efforts.

1 **Are your stakeholders confident that existing plans and programs will result in higher student achievement?**

It is common in districts and schools to ask stakeholders to rate their level of satisfaction with programs, services, curricula, and sometimes even board and employee performance. It is not as common to ask stakeholders if they are confident that their expectations for higher student achievement will be attained through existing programs and plans.

VitalInsight™ does not measure stakeholder satisfaction; it measures the knowledge that stakeholders have of the frequency and strength of research-based practice.

2 **Is your district or school using the same common planning strategies and processes to maximize results?**

In most districts, a uniform set of planning processes with a common vocabulary are not used in all schools. Without this basic commitment, time and energy are lost in meetings discussing how to develop plans with few plans successfully launched. The board, district and school leaders, and staff should make a commitment to a specific model guiding all planning and implementation efforts.

VitalInsight™ provides a very effective planning and performance improvement model, based on the protocols of clinical medicine, used at all levels of the district and school.

VITALINSIGHT
Context. Focus. Breakthrough.

3 **Are you and your team able to successfully integrate data and technologies to effectively support instruction, decision- making, and performance improvement?**

Data represent the life-blood for accurate decision making and performance improvement. While many states have requirements that school districts and schools periodically submit technology, safety and security, transportation, data use, and/or other plans, very few districts and schools have integrated these plans to make cost-effective decisions.

VitalInsight™ helps leaders integrate multiple plans and coordinate the data and the technology options for cost-effective results.

4 **Are your students able to use data to track their own progress and achievement, as well as develop plans with their teachers, to increase mastery levels?**

Student performance data are important to bring together teachers, students, and parents in their efforts to improve student achievement and raise proficiency rates. Thoughtful use of student performance data shared and discussed during face-to-face meetings, utilized in the daily interactions of teacher and student, and available to families through portal access, demonstrate to students that an informed supportive school and adult network exists to help them learn.

VitalInsight™ prepares leaders, faculty members, parents, and students to use processes and data that encourage students to learn how they learn and to plan and manage their own learning.

5 **Are you confident in your school or district's ability to engage all stakeholders in the selection, implementation, and assessment of programs, services, and curricula that accelerate student learning?**

Stakeholders, especially students, parents, and community members routinely engaged in teams and committees, gain a unique perspective on the effectiveness of existing programs, services, and curricula. Engaging stakeholders in an annual assessment of Programs, Services, and Curricula that Accelerate Learning (PSCAL) provides many clues to what strategies should be selected to increase the rate of student learning.

VitalInsight™ provides an assessment of stakeholder knowledge and offers suggestions about how leaders can engage stakeholders in efforts to design and implement programs, services, and curricula that meet the learning needs of all students.

VITALINSIGHT
Context. Focus. Breakthrough.

6 **Are you confident in how your faculty members, students, and parents collaboratively support student learning?**

District and school leaders have a responsibility for establishing the expectation that faculty members, students, and parents will communicate frequently about each and every student's performance and the progress made towards learning and other performance objectives.

VitalInsight™ provides strategies to increase faculty member engagement of students in personal and group discussion that focuses on the processes that will help achieve behavioral and academic goals.

7 **Are your stakeholders confident that schools are places where students and adults feel welcome, safe, and secure?**

Schools make many efforts to prevent the occurrence of threatening events and to appropriately address them if they occur. School employees, students, parents, and first responders participate in the development of plans, interact in practice sessions, and participate in assessments of practice. Communication strategies are fine-tuned and practiced to understand what will happen when they are needed. Adjustments and corrections are made each year.

VitalInsight™ provides an assessment of seven essential elements of safety and security.

8 **Are leadership roles and responsibilities shared among all employees within your school or district?**

Leadership is characterized by a set of beliefs and behaviors that positively affect others and contribute to better outcomes. These beliefs and behaviors are carried out by everyone, not just those filling administrative positions. Employees are expected to expand the impact of their performance beyond that which is described in a job description and evaluation forms.

VitalInsight™ provides an assessment of the relative strength of leadership behavior among employees, and depending on the diagnoses, provides strategies for leaders to grow leadership abilities among employees.

You encounter many unanticipated problems every year that consume energy and resources that you intended for other purposes. We have shared with you only a few practices derived from research that distinguish the highest performing schools and districts. VitalInsight™ has been established around these and thousands of other practices to guide staff members, students, and other stakeholders to collaboratively produce outstanding results.

VitalInsight™ is the first Clinical Education Technology for PreK-12 education that combines an assessment of stakeholder knowledge and experience and research-proven best practice to produce accurate diagnoses and reliable prescriptions to improve the school, employee, and student performance.

vitalinsightsolutions.com

VITALINSIGHT
Context. Focus. Breakthrough.

Phone: 877.536.3127