

## Vision for School Improvement

Iowa DE is using its Multi-tiered System of Supports (MTSS) to help it understand the performance of individual schools within the context of its accountability system. DE uses information produced by MTSS to facilitate conversations with school and LEA leaders about the challenges they face and to select supports to help them implement what are regarded as best practices.

## Key Strategies

**PROGRESS UPDATES:** DE formalized relationships with Area Education Agencies (AEAs), Iowa’s intermediate units, to increase the uniformity with which they deliver services to schools and improved its infrastructure to support continuous improvement efforts based on school adoption of evidence-based practices aligned to needs identified by a rigorous assessment.

**CHALLENGES:** DE is working to maintain momentum to implement Differentiated Accountability—a model designed to provide LEAS and AEAs supports when and where they need it most—while making significant changes within the agency.

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE & COMPLIANCE

- **Templates and rubrics for improvement plans:** Developed (a) a rubric to evaluate LEA applications, (b) a needs assessment rubric for CSI/TSI schools and (c) an exemplary CSI template plan
- **Professional development:** Held convenings to cover changes to the SI application, provided TA on how to implement SI plans and is providing training and support on needs assessment, best practices in instruction and interventions, new requirements for SI, and action plan development
- **Guidance:** Developed materials to explain SI process to educators, families and community members and provided guidance to LEAs on (a) ESSA regulations to which schools and LEAs must conform, (b) the actions that Iowa DE will take to identify, support and intervene in CSI/TSI schools, (c) implementation strategies for TSI schools and (d) evidence-based strategies aligned to ESSA requirements
- **Structures and processes:** Developed or updated processes to (a) provide feedback to LEAs on SI efforts, (b) work with AEAs to provide TA to LEAs and schools and (c) monitor progress

## Key Updates

**NEW POLICY/REGULATIONS:** Iowa updated state laws to conform with its ESSA plan for school improvement.

**NEW SEA PRACTICE:** DE will (a) revise the LEA application to reinforce state goals for SI, (b) consolidate the LEA school improvement application and (c) provide evidence-based strategies.

## Funding: Formula

Iowa DE will use a weighted funding formula to distribute funds across CSI/TSI schools and AEAs over a three year cycle of improvement.

## State and School Needs

### SEA

Time to allow the reforms to strengthen, mature, and continuously improve

### SCHOOLS

Permission to focus and spend time on root causes of challenges revealed by student achievement data and consistent SEA support based on identified needs

## Implementation Timeline

<b>Summer '18</b>	Summer Institute: AEA required Professional Learning
<b>Fall '18</b>	Booster session for AEAs; CSI/TSI identification; LEA SI application opens; SI planning year begins; LEA regional training begins
<b>Winter '18</b>	State report card issued; LEA administrator sessions delivered
<b>2019-20 SY</b>	LEA resource allocation audit; LEA regional training continues; full implementation of SI system