Vision for School Improvement

NDE is taking a three-pillar approach to SI: (1) focusing on the lowest-performing schools, (2) retaining and developing great school leaders and (3) making data-informed decisions.

Key Strategies

PROGRESS UPDATES: Addressing evidence-based requirements, NDE updated federal/state grant applications, trained its own and LEA staff on evidence-based strategies, evaluated evidence-based providers, and facilitated meet and greets between schools and the providers NDE identified as high quality.

CHALLENGES: NDE is establishing a list of evidence-based providers for all areas of school improvement and moving away from past providers that don't meet the new evidence-based requirements. There are also more schools in need of funding than funding available.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE & COMPLIANCE

- **Templates and rubrics for improvement plans**: Developed (a) rubric to evaluate LEA applications, (b) needs assessment rubrics and (c) an exemplary CSI template plan
- **Professional development:** Held convenings to cover changes to the application and provided TA on how to implement plans
- **Guidance**: Developed materials to explain the 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 NDE will take to identify, support and intervene in CSI and TSI schools, (c) implementation strategies for TSI schools and (d) evidence-based SI strategies aligned to ESSA requirements
- **Structures and processes:** Developed or updated processes to (a) recruit, screen, select and evaluate external partners/providers, (b) provide feedback to LEAs on SI efforts, (c) work with ESAs to provide TA to LEAs and schools and (d) monitor progress

Key Updates

NEW POLICY/REGULATIONS: NV updated state laws to conform with state's ESSA plan for SI.

NEW SEA PRACTICE: NDE will (a) revise the LEA application to reinforce state goals for SI, (b) consolidate the LEA school improvement application, (c) provide evidence-based strategies and (d) administer funds on a competitive basis to LEAs with identified schools.

Funding: Competitive Grant

NDE's grant process prioritizes school need as determined by performance on the accountability framework and the alignment of the school's plan with the evidence-based requirements.

State and School Needs

SEA

Increased capacity of a small team enacting major shift in approach and additional resources required to support TSI schools that become CSI

SCHOOLS

Availability of skilled school leaders with turnaround skills and shift in how districts support leaders

Implementation Timeline

2017	Launched competitive funding for SI; identified 1st cohort of CSI schools
Spring '18	2nd round of competitive SI funding launched
Fall '18	CSI/TSI schools identified; state report card released; 3rd round of competitive funding launched
TBD	LEA resource allocation audit