A THEORY OF ACTION for School Improvement

The Pennsylvania Department of Education is committed to supporting and monitoring the school improvement efforts of Local Education Agencies (LEAs)*, schools, and their communities. With a shared vision for the future of education in PA, we will work together to create:

**GOAL:** LEAs that are accountable and empowered to serve schools identified for support and improvement

**GOAL:** Schools and communities that are accountable and empowered to provide effective, engaging instruction within a supportive culture

**GOAL:** Engaged, healthy, safe students who are college • career • community ready

If Pennsylvania:

- Meaningfully engages stakeholders in the design, implementation, and monitoring of supports for continuous improvement;
- Implements a cycle of improvement that is focused on results;
- Fosters a culture of evidence-based policies and practices; and
- Deploys regional systems of differentiated resources, supports and interventions responsive to LEAs’ and schools’ highest-priority needs,

and LEAs:

- Establish effective, standards-aligned instructional programs;
- Support schools and their communities in removing barriers to learning;
- Customize support systems to meet the local needs and context of individual schools;
- Implement data-informed human capital systems; and
- Allocate resources based on the needs of individual schools and their communities,

then schools and their communities can:

- Support effective instructional practices in all classrooms;
- Foster collective responsibility for the academic, social, emotional and behavioral outcomes of all students;
- Cultivate a safe, positive and supportive climate that is conducive to learning; and
- Provide high-quality professional learning opportunities for all administrators, teachers and support staff.

*LEAs include public school districts, charter schools, and career and technical schools.

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