

# SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT WITH EDUCATION ELEMENTS

Ultimately successful school improvement focuses on leadership and learning. In fact, we believe that:

- Leadership can be found everywhere, not just with the school leader. School improvement efforts must engage all leaders to build systems and processes. With excellent leadership, we ensure that our work permeates every level, everyone feels connected, and that new norms are sustainable.
- Learning is not just for students, but also for adults. Learning new, evidenced-based knowledge and skill requires space, scaffolding, and psychological safety and requires the use of high-quality materials and research-proven approaches.

## Our Approach to School Improvement

No two school districts, or schools within a district, are alike, so their paths to improvement will differ also. While some schools are focused on achieving or sustaining compliance, others are ready to grow and innovate but need the thought space and support to pursue that path. In order to lift up struggling schools or help stagnant schools improve, there first needs to be a thorough exploration of their systems and processes in order to develop a short-term and long-term plan for improvement or, possibly, transformation.

Education Elements designs sustainable solutions that improve student outcomes. We recognize that districts with schools designated as in need of improvement must focus on immediate, compliance-driven mandates while simultaneously investing in leadership and learning practices that lead to long-term, sustainable improvements. By guiding school leaders methodically through a purposefully designed process, we take the time to understand the unique challenges school leaders face and then customize an approach that leads predictably to positive results. This method ensures that practices are built to transform schools while at the same time move schools out of compliance.



## Proven Impact

Our School Improvement process has been proven to be consistently effective -- for over 30 years, through our partner PLC School Improvement Associates, our school improvement process has moved dozens of schools off the accountability list.

**In 2023 alone, the PLC School Improvement process helped move 23 districts out of accountability designation.**



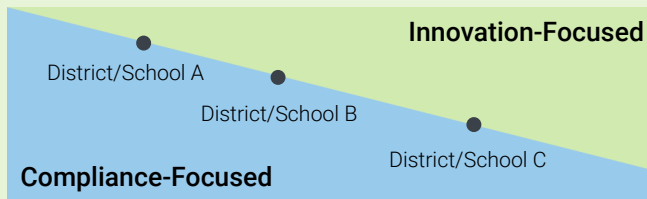
**A suburban district of 7,000 students with 13 schools** was notified that they were taken off the list of Focus Districts after two years of the PLC School Improvement process. PLC conducted intensive work in this district including diagnostics, utilizing the Data Triangle instrument to assess and monitor best practices, and then subsequently provided high-impact monthly onsite support to all school leaders.

**A city school district** with 36% American Indian/Alaskan Native ethnicity worked with the PLC School Improvement process for three years in a school/district turnaround initiative and achieved:

- Graduation rate subgroup population three year increase 32% (54% to 86%)
- Advanced Regents Diploma rate three year increase 13% (5% to 18%)
- Overall graduation rate three-year increase 17% (67% to 84%).

**A rural district**, with significantly high numbers of economically disadvantaged students and consistent lack of historical results, was placed back in good standing after two intensive years of work with the PLC School Improvement process. Not only did schools and the district move into good standing, the Superintendent reported moving from the bottom of the region to having the second-highest math scores in the region.

Our approach **allows us to focus on aspects of both compliance and innovation** no matter where your schools are.



**District/School B:** Our process ensures that we build instructional and leadership practices that can be sustained over time, and that schools are eventually able to focus less of their time and energy on compliance and more on innovation.

**District/School A:** We work to move schools off compliance designation, while at the same time focusing on instructional and leadership practices that will move all schools towards innovation.

**District/School C:** Our approach allows us to differentiate support for schools who need compliance-based support while also pushing innovation in schools that are not on a designated list.

### For More Information & Pricing:

Contact us to discuss your unique needs, and to explore whether one of these approaches could be the right one for you. [info@edelements.com](mailto:info@edelements.com)

### About Education Elements

Education Elements is a national education consulting firm with a mission to shape a more equitable and just future by changing how people design for each student's potential. We partner with districts and schools to design learning environments that meet the needs of every student. We believe that schools grow when people grow. Our theory of change is that by developing educators and other adults, we can equip them with the skills and knowledge needed to transform our schools to create equitable experiences for students. We see equity as a choice – a choice that individuals and collective communities make to put students' individual and unique needs first. We have built a reputation for helping schools and districts with instructional design, organizational strategy, and leadership.

At Education Elements, we have supported the implementation of initiatives and programs in small rural areas, suburban and large urban communities – in more than 2000 schools, districts, and states across the US.