



The Center  
FOR COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL  
REFORM AND IMPROVEMENT

[www.centerforcsri.org](http://www.centerforcsri.org)

# Introduction

# The Center for Comprehensive School Reform and Improvement



Administered by Learning Point Associates in partnership with SEDL under contract with the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education of the U.S. Department of Education.

# Background

- The federal education statute in the United States is the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).
- The current version of ESEA is known as the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB).
- NCLB requires proficiency in reading and mathematics for all students by 2013-14.
- State education agencies (SEAs) establish Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) benchmarks that must be attained to reach the 2013-14 requirement.
- Schools that do not make AYP for five consecutive years must engage in “restructuring.”

# Background

- ESEA, Title I, § 1111 requires that **all state education agencies (SEAs)** have a plan to address the requirements of the law, including a state system of support for districts and schools identified for improvement.
- ESEA, Title I, § 1112 requires that **all local education agencies (LEAs)** submit a plan that addresses the requirements of the law, including the actions the LEA will take to assist its **low-achieving schools identified as needing improvement**. LEAs also must revise these plans and take further steps with schools that enter **corrective action** or **restructuring**.
- ESEA, Title I, § 1116 requires that all schools identified as needing improvement submit a plan to address the specific academic issues that must be improved. The LEA must provide technical assistance to each school in need of improvement.

# Background

- As of 2003–04, approximately 5,600 schools in the United States were identified as in need of improvement.
- Two-thirds of the schools were in large, urban school districts.

# What is The Center?

- Based in DC, we are federally funded
- We were connected with the federal CSR program
- We are neutral
- All materials and activities are research-based
- All supports are provided at no-cost
- Learning Point Associates (LPA), based in Naperville, IL, is our host organization

# Our Mission

The Center's mission is to help schools organize, plan, implement, and sustain improvement.

# Who is eligible to work with The Center?

- Our first priority is schools and districts that are not making AYP
- We do offer support to other schools and districts but that support is less intensive
- States are also welcome to seek Center support with improvement efforts
- University faculty and parents also utilize The Center

# Our Products and Services

- Ask-the-Expert
- Research-based materials
- On-the-ground technical assistance
- Web site



# Our materials



- Newsletters
- Issue Briefs
- Research Briefs
- Policy Briefs
- Podcasts
- Webcasts and DVDs of those webcasts

# Our newsletters

- Very practitioner-friendly
- About 1,500 words
- Useful for a school-based professional development session



# Sample Topics Schools Struggle to Address

- Increasing achievement for culturally and linguistically diverse students
- Increasing achievement for students with disabilities
- Increasing achievement for students who live in poverty
- Retaining teachers in urban schools
- Student discipline
- Parent involvement in education
- Mathematics and reading achievement
- Principal leadership

# A few newsletters topics

- Serving Recent Immigrant Students Through School-Community Partnerships
- Getting to "Got It"! Helping Mathematics Students Reach Deep Understanding
- Maximizing the Impact of Teacher Collaboration
- Using Positive Student Engagement to Increase Student Achievement

# Technical assistance examples

- Supporting an urban school district in corrective action with a group of schools in restructuring
- Supporting a school system that is struggling to appropriately serve Native American Students
- Supporting school districts with increasing numbers of culturally or linguistically diverse students
- Supporting turn-around leaders who have assumed the leadership of struggling schools

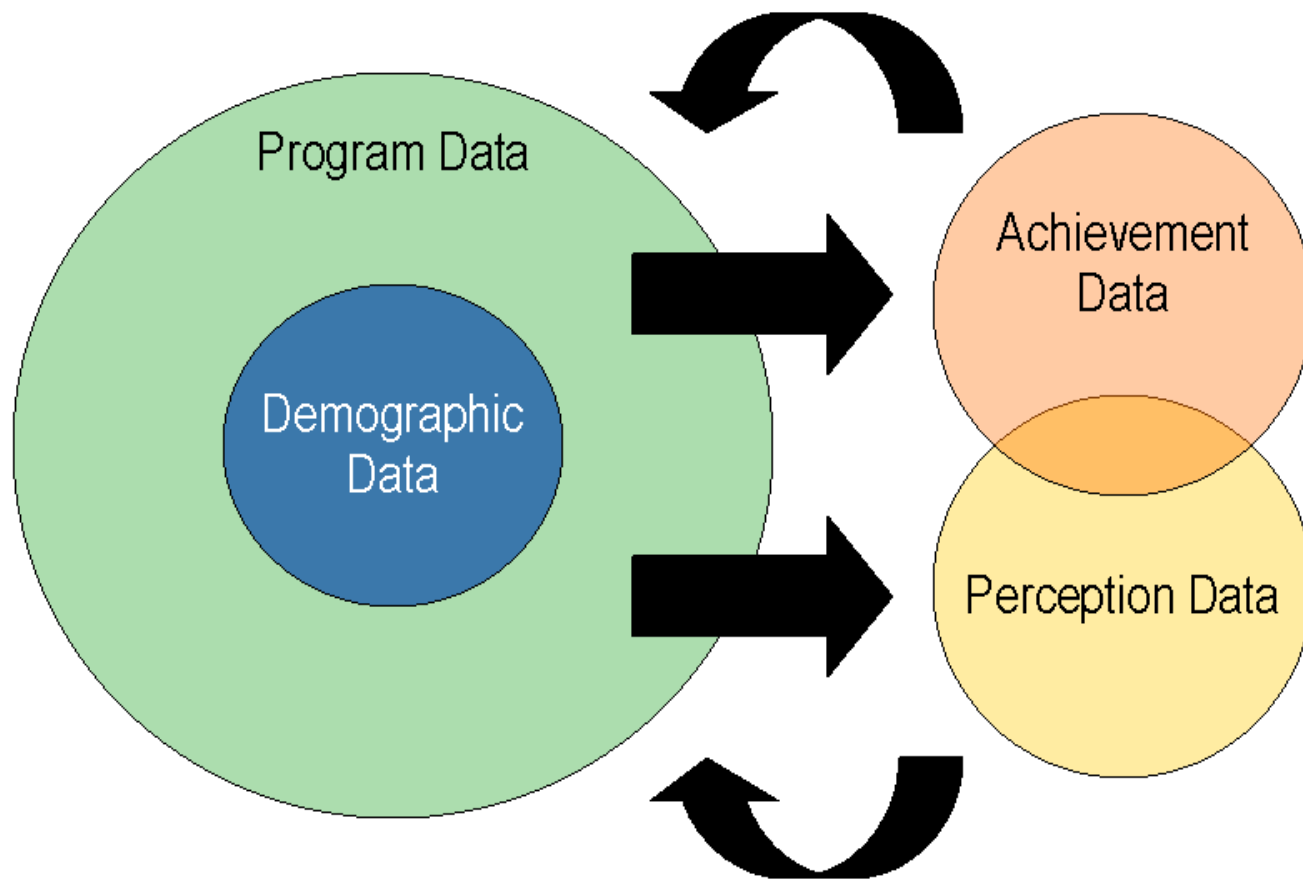
# Technical assistance examples

- Presentations at district, state and national conferences
- The Center's self-administered school review tool

# Six research-supported quality indicators for successful schools

- Strong curriculum
- Effective instructional practices
- Effective use of student performance data
- Positive school culture focused on achievement
- Effective school leadership
- Parental involvement

# School Review: Data Collection Framework





# Any questions or comments?





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