



The Center  
FOR COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL  
REFORM AND IMPROVEMENT

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

# Planning Today for Tomorrow's Success

The Center for Comprehensive  
School Reform and Improvement



The Center for Comprehensive School Reform and Improvement is administered by Learning Point Associates under contract with the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education of the U.S. Department of Education.

# Our Mission

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

# What is The Center?

- Based in D.C., The Center is federally funded by the U.S. Department of Education.
- The Center was connected with the past federal Comprehensive School Reform (CSR) program.
- We are neutral—all materials and activities are research based.
- Learning Point Associates, based in Naperville, Illinois, administers our work.
- All services are provided at no cost.

# Who is The Center?

- Winsome Waite, Senior Program Associate
- Abner Oakes, Senior Program Associate
- Carolyn Brown, Director of Research
- Stephanie Wood-Garnett, Director
- Traci Maday, Program Associate
- Ladan Rahnema, Program Associate
- Doreen Suguitan, Executive Assistant

# Our Products and Services

- Our Ask-the-Expert service.
- Our research-based materials.
- Our district-level and state-level technical assistance.
- Our self-administered school review tool.

# Ask-the-Expert

- From Louisiana: “I’m looking for ... research or data ... on (1) the number of and (2) the success rates related to school performance/improvement of charter schools that are run by local organizations/persons compared to charter school that are operated by national organizations (Edison schools, KIPP, etc.).”

# Ask-the-Expert

- From California: “Do you have specific studies about STEM schools?”
- From Pennsylvania: “We’re searching for a comprehensive middle school reading program that is flexible enough to use with all levels. Of course, it must be researched based. I'm not finding any out there. Do you know of any?”

# Our Materials



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



# Our Newsletters

- Practitioner friendly
- Current and topical
- About 1500 words
- Useful for a school-based professional development session, PLC-based conversation, or ...



# Titles of Selected Newsletters

- *Response to Intervention: Possibilities for Service Delivery at the Secondary School Level*
- *Stuck in the Middle: Strategies to Engage Middle-Level Learners*
- *Getting to "Got It!" Helping Mathematics Students Reach Deep Understanding*
- *Serving Recent Immigrant Students Through School-Community Partnerships*
- *Maximizing the Impact of Teacher Collaboration*

# The Center's Webcasts



# The Webcast on Algebra

- “Yes, I found the webcast useful. ... Many of the topics that you hit are areas which have been big discussion topics in my workshops. ... This was good because it reinforces what I am working on in northern Michigan. ... Thank you again for the time you put into the webcast. It allows access to quality discussions for people like me that are somewhat isolated.”
  - Judy Falk, GIS Teacher, Gaylord (Michigan) Community Schools

# 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 its Native American students.
- Supporting several school districts whose changing demographics have led to an increased number of culturally or linguistically diverse students.
- Supporting turn-around leaders who have assumed the leadership of struggling schools.

# School Review Process Guide

- A research-based guide for school improvement planning.
- An easy-to-follow, systematic process for schools to collect and analyze data and plan for school improvement—without having to employ consultants.

# But Before We Continue ...

- Does the school reform world need another school review tool or school review process?

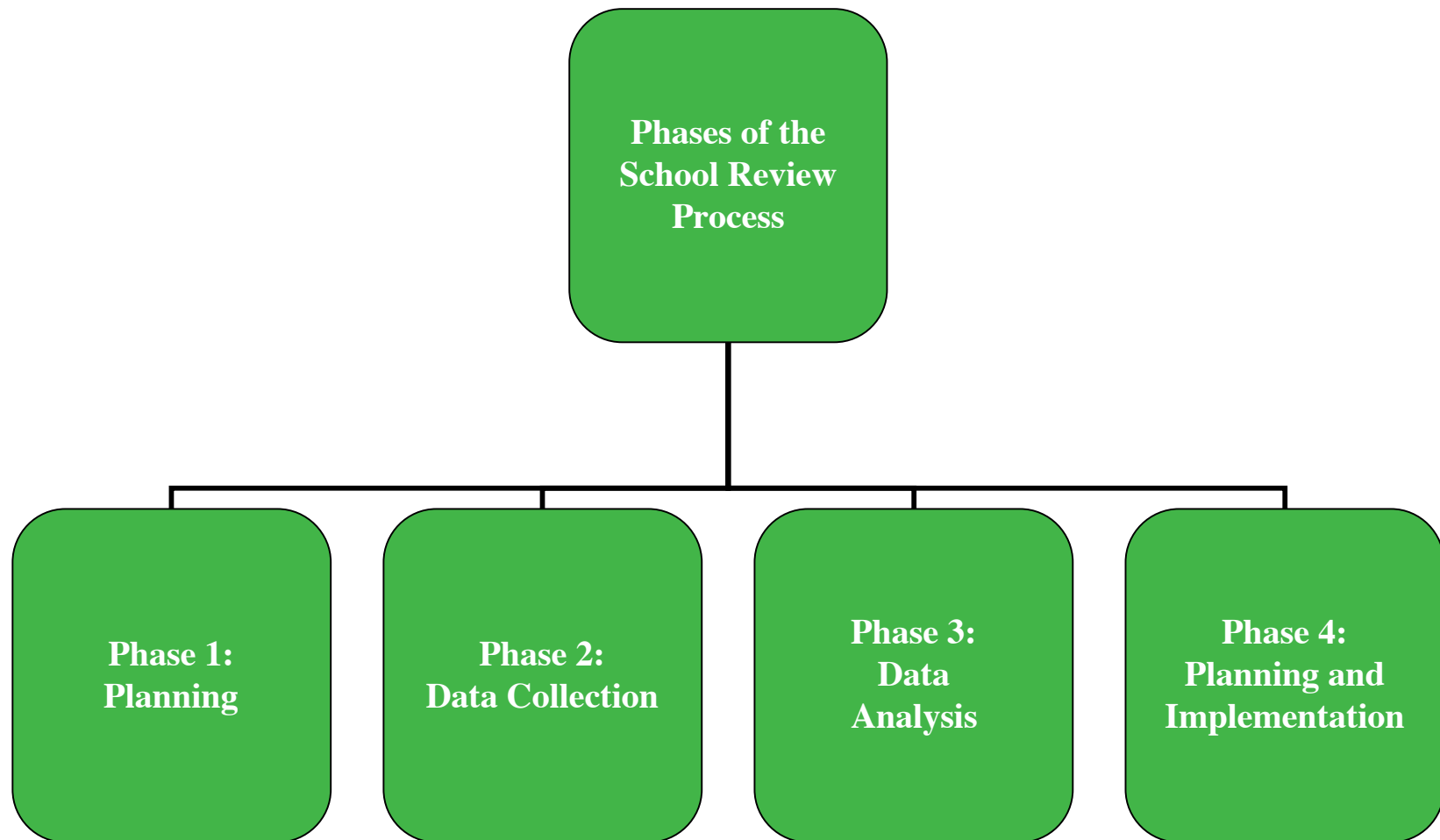


# What is The Center's School Review Process?

- This process begins by asking school improvement teams to evaluate their school's strengths and weaknesses.
- School improvement team members gather and analyze key data.
- Teams use the data to develop and implement school improvement practices.
- These activities are organized into four phases.



# Phases of the School Review Process



# Based on Six Research-Supported Quality Indicators for Successful Schools

- Aligned and rigorous curriculum.
- Effective instructional practices.
- Use of assessment and analysis of student performance data.
- Positive school culture focused on achievement.
- Effective school leadership.
- Parental and community engagement.

# The quality indicators

- Small group activity based on these indicators
- See the handouts in your packet

# Questions or Comments?





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at Learning Point Associates

## **Abner Oakes & Winsome Waite**

**P:** 202-223-6690, 877-277-2744

**E-Mail:** abner.oakes@learningpt.org  
winsome.waite@learningpt.org

1100 17th Street NW, Suite 500  
Washington, D.C. 20036-4632

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