Research Shows

Schools strong on at least three of the five essentials for school improvement were 10 times more likely to show substantial gains in student learning than schools weak on three or more of the five essentials. A low score in even just one of the core measures of the five essentials reduced the likelihood of improvement to less than 10%.
What is the 5Essentials System?

The 5Essentials Survey

The 5Essentials Survey is a diagnostic assessment of a school’s culture and climate designed to identify organizational strengths and areas of opportunity on the five essential factors that drive school improvement. The 5Essentials Survey:

- Measures changes in the organizational conditions that are necessary for school improvement
- Predicts a schools’ success in improving student outcomes through research-based analysis
- Creates individualized web-based reports that offer a comprehensive view of the school environment

The 5Essentials Supports

The 5Essentials Supports are designed to help schools translate 5Essentials Survey findings into actionable plans for school improvement and to build leadership capacity to successfully execute school improvement efforts. The 5Essentials Supports:

- Engage school leadership teams in rigorous training sessions that help educators interpret and utilize 5Essentials Survey data
- Partner with school leadership on professional learning opportunities and leadership coaching designed to support educators in their efforts to implement and monitor improvement plans that are anchored in the 5Essentials framework and data

Our Impact

The 5Essentials Survey has been administered in nearly 6,000 schools across the country, with over 5 million students, teachers, and parents completing the survey and contributing to school improvement processes.

97% of nearly 900 leadership team members stated that their 5Essentials results were useful for developing their school improvement plan.

95% of nearly 900 leadership team members stated that their 5Essentials results were useful for improving student outcomes.

3/5ths of partner schools increased their overall 5Essentials rating after one year of school leadership coaching.

“The 5Essentials survey has provided a helpful framework for our strategic improvement efforts. The survey provides research-based and holistic information about how well our schools are organized for success.”

Cara Quinn, Executive Director
Community of Peace Academy, Minnesota

“It was clear that the status quo would need to be challenged if we were going to be successful in bringing about substantive change. The 5Essentials data helped build a strong enough case to grab the collective attention of the organization.”

Victor Simon, Superintendent
Gower School District 62, Illinois

Partner with UChicago Impact

To learn more about partnering with UChicago Impact on implementing the 5Essentials, please contact: 5Essentials@uchicago.edu

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