The 7-Year Itch: Discussing Strategies for Aligning SSIP Components to Monitor Progress

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What classic movie captures your feelings about the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)?
Presenters

Nashville, TN - June 6–7, 2022
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Participant Outcomes

• Increase understanding of the benefits of aligning SSIP components
• Learn how SEAs have realigned SSIP components to improve progress towards the State-identified Measurable Result (SiMR)
• Reflect on how the SSIP has changed in your state over time and how changes were addressed
Agenda

• Review major SSIP components
• Consider changes over time that affect alignment of SSIP components
• State panel discussion: Presenters discuss challenges and successes with SSIP and evaluation in their states over the past 7 years
• Table discussion: How have changes affected SSIP plans in your state?
SSIP: 7 Years and Counting

Phase I—Analysis (2015)
- Data analysis
- Infrastructure analysis
- State-identified Measurable Result (SiMR)
- Coherent improvement strategies
- Theory of action

Phase II—Multiyear Plan (2016)
- Infrastructure development
- Support for implementing Evidence-Based Practices
- Evaluation plan

Phase III—Implementation and Evaluation (2017‒2025)
- Results of ongoing evaluation
- Extent of progress
- Revisions to the plan
SSIP Components
Required Components

• Theory of action
• SiMR
• Infrastructure improvement strategies
• Evidence-based practices (EBP)
• Evaluation plan
Theory of Action

- Presents hypotheses about how an improvement strategy works to accomplish the vision
- Shows steps and checkpoints
- Helps clarify expectations
- Allows teams to move from abstract ideas to concrete plans
SiMR

• The ultimate goal of the SSIP
• The expected long-term outcome
• Must be a measurable student-level outcome
  – Most often tied to outcome/results indicators
Infrastructure Improvement Strategies

• Changes in policies and/or practices at the systems level, such as at an SEA
• Often short- or intermediate-term changes in governance, data, finance, accountability/monitoring, quality standards, professional development, and/or technical assistance
• Strategies intended to change the way a program accomplishes its work
• Evidence-based practices leading to better student outcomes
Evidence-Based Practices

• Practices supported by research as effective

• Meant to change behavior at school or home
  – Principals
  – Teachers
  – Providers
  – Students
  – Parents

• Intended to enhance instruction or interventions to ultimately improve student outcomes
Evaluation Plan

- Tests hypotheses in theory of action (TOA)
- Identifies ways the state will collect, analyze, use, and share SSIP data
- Details data collection plans
- Identifies research methods, responsible party, and relevant timelines
- Helps obtain information to
  - Assess implementation progress
  - Identify and address implementation challenges
  - Determine if you are achieving the intended results

Changes Over Time That Affect SSIP Alignment
Changes Over Time: Theory of Action and Evaluation Plan

- Improvement area
- Activities
- Outcomes
- Research question
- Strategies & activities
- Short- and medium-term outcomes
- SiMR

Collect, Report, Analyze, and Use High-Quality Part B Data
Changes Over Time: Other Factors

- Changes in priorities from leadership
- Scale-up
- Alignment with other state initiatives
State Panel Discussion
State Panel Discussion

- What prompted you to change your SSIP?
- How did you approach the process of change?
- How do the data you are collecting answer the SSIP’s evaluation questions?
- How are you planning for future changes?
Table Discussion
Table Discussion

• How have changes over the last 7 years affected SSIP plans/implementation in your state?
• What have you done to address the changes?
• For example:
  – Were changes prompted by evaluation data or by external influences (such as structural changes within the SEA/state, funding sources, barriers with scaling-up, etc.)?
  – Have you made changes to your SiMR, TOA, evaluation plan, improvement activities, choice of EBPs?
Resources

• *Using a Theory of Action to Develop Performance Indicators to Measure Progress Toward a SiMR* (IDEA Data Center)

• *Operationalizing Your SSIP Evaluation: A Self-Assessment Tool* (IDEA Data Center)
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What actions will you take to commit to being a Data Quality Influencer?
For More Information

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