

CONSULTATION

SCHOOL BOARD TRAINING



COLORADO
Department of Education

Local school boards carry the important responsibility of setting policies that underlie LEA and school improvement processes and the LEA's management of school improvement efforts.

In partnership with the Center on School Turnaround (CST), CDE will offer support and consultation for local school boards to build their own capacity to set effective policy and practices in support of low-performing schools. Participating boards may engage in two phases of work:

1. In Phase 1, boards will complete an online self-assessment, learn from other boards through reading two case studies, delve into the CST's guiding framework *Four Domains for Rapid Improvement*, and identify next steps.
2. In Phase 2 (optional), boards will develop an action plan for strengthening the board's effectiveness in setting policies related to continuous LEA and school improvement and overseeing the implementation of those policies.

Phase 1 is conducted through discussions during board meetings. Phase 1 consists of six discussions that can be spread out over six board meetings (20 to 30 minutes each) or condensed to fewer but longer sessions. Some reading is required between meetings. The optional Phase 2 requires about 20 to 30 minutes per monthly meeting on the board-selected project over the following six months.

It is recommended that each board identify an external facilitator to lead the discussions in this process. CDE staff may be available to help facilitate conversations and coordinate with other LEA and school efforts.

IMPORTANT PROGRAM DATES

January	Award notifications
Winter – Summer	Phase 1 – Self assessment, exploration
Fall – Winter	Phase 2 – Action plan, implementation

Boards may engage in this learning experience at their own pace and starting time.

KEY ROLES IN THE PROGRAM

Center on School Turnaround: The CST provides the School Board Toolkit, Facilitator's Online Portal, readings, and pre-recorded introductory webinar.

State Partner: A CDE staff member or combination of local agency (BOCES, professional organization, or other) will help by conducting the introductory webinar, answer questions, and support the identified facilitator throughout the process.

Facilitator: The facilitator coordinates and facilitates discussion and process of the project for the LEA and local board.

School Board: The school board members complete an initial online survey, read brief reports and case studies outside of meetings, discuss the readings in meetings, and consider board improvement projects.

Who Can I Contact for More Information?

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