



**ESC Resource Center**

# **RESOURCE CENTER PRODUCT CATALOG**



**TEXAS CENTER FOR  
DISTRICT & SCHOOL SUPPORT**



# Critical Success Factors

The ESC Resource Center provides resources around the Texas Accountability Intervention System (TAIS) framework and identifies tools aligned to the Critical Success Factors (CSFs).

The CSFs represent foundational elements known to promote success at the campus level. They serve as strategic areas of focus for school improvement, are grounded in evidence-based research, and have proven to be vital components for enhancing student learning and implementing continuous improvement efforts.



## Academic Performance

### TTI - Transformational Teachers Institute

This three-day professional development series was designed utilizing research-based resources that have proven effective in assisting schools improve student achievement. Teachers, as well as participating administrators, will explore leadership characteristics and opportunities, collaboration practices, and data-driven decision making to inform instruction. These strategies, when put into practice, translate to increased student and teacher efficacy.

### Curriculum Audits

The Curriculum Audit Tool is designed to be either a district self-evaluation tool or a tool used by qualified ESC staff to conduct a formal curriculum audit for a district. The audit tool includes background information and overviews of appropriate processes used in a curriculum audit, such as: document review, needs surveys, and the use of focus groups. The tool focuses on eight standards of quality curriculum design:

- Coordination of Curriculum - Horizontal Alignment
- Articulation of Curriculum - Vertical Alignment
- Monitoring of Curriculum
- Needs Assessment
- Curriculum Plan
- Professional Development
- Assessment and Use of Data
- 21st Century Learning Skills



# Quality Data

## CASA

CASA is a set of tools to be used to analyze student work to better determine why students perform at the level they do and to help better ensure that there is tight alignment between the written, taught, and learned curriculum. The goals of this training are to enhance teachers' perceptions of all their students' work, encourage depth of perception by demonstrating all that can be seen in a single student's piece of work, and encourage conversation among teachers about what the work shows and how they can act individually and collectively in order to benefit their students. The key factors of this protocol for examining student's work are:

- Focus on open-ended assignments and performance tasks.
- Suspend judgment long enough to look carefully and closely at what is actually in the work rather than what we hope to see in it.
- Draw from the perspective of others to help us see aspects of the student and the work that would otherwise escape us

## Student-Engaged Assessment: Plan, Track, Respond

In an age of ever expanding accountability standards, complete and rich student diversity, and rapid globalization, the moral imperative of accurately diagnosing and responding to every student's learning needs is an epic challenge. Teachers cannot and should not do it alone.

SEA is a one-day professional development module that provides teachers time to reflect and revise an existing instructional unit in order to strategically incorporate targeted assessments and engage students as partners in assessing and tracking their own learning. Teachers will leave the training with a unit of study that is ready for implementation and a process that they can follow individually or with their professional learning communities.

Based on some of the most respected research on planning, assessment, and engagement, SEA provides a structured workshop environment where teachers will:

- Clarify the essential goals for the unit
- Refine assessment tasks to ensure rigor and alignment
- Incorporate time and strategies for unpacking quality criteria with students
- Embed daily assessments (teacher-directed, peer, and self)
- Design a system for data tracking
- Anticipate where differentiation will be required



# Leadership Effectiveness

## Leaders' Portfolio

Leaders' Portfolio is a vehicle for virtual coaching through the use of an online portfolio and the blended coaching model. Training is intended for a target audience of principals and their coaches.

## 4E Enlist, Educate, Empower, Evaluate

This product is designed for ESC Turnaround Teams and/or School Districts to strengthen turnaround leadership in high school settings. The training and tools will assist district leadership in strengthening a succession pipeline for secondary turnaround leaders.



# Increased Learning Time

## L-TAT - Learning Time Analysis Tool

The Learning Time Analysis Tool (L-TAT) provides a framework for analyzing instructional learning time and discovering opportunities for increasing learning time at the campus level. The L-TAT is a web-based application to support collection and review of data related to instructional learning time. The tool is accessible on desktops, tablets, and other mobile devices, creating flexible options for data collection.

## Increasing Learning Time for Middle School Math

The Learning Time Analysis Tool (L-TAT) provides a framework for analyzing instructional learning time and discovering opportunities for increasing learning time at the campus level. The L-TAT is a web-based application to support collection and review of data related to instructional learning time. The tool is accessible on desktops, tablets, and other mobile devices, creating flexible options for data collection.



# School Climate

## Warming Up the Campus

Warming Up the Campus will assist campus leadership teams in focusing on school climate while developing a culture built on strong relationships. This tool incorporates research from the National School Climate Center's dimensions of school climate which include safety, relationships, teaching and learning, instructional environment, and staff. It provides a framework for engaging in on-going conversations to gather data, which allows campuses to reflect on internal systems. Utilizing this tool will support campus leadership teams as they continue to enhance existing systems and create warm and safe spaces where learning and achievement are paramount.

## Warming Up the Classroom Climate

This training is focused on teacher actions in the classroom with input from a student focus group and follow-up training vignette.



# Teacher Quality

## POD<sup>3</sup> - Peer Observation Data-Driven Dialogue

The implementation of the strategies presented in POD<sup>3</sup> increases the capacity of teachers and administrators to self-assess, collectively determine needs, and create paths for professional growth. This two-module series is based on research of best practices for collaboratively improving teacher quality through classroom observations. Unlike an evaluation system where administrators observe and provide feedback, the focus is on teachers observing classrooms to increase their own efficacy and instructional expertise.

## Virtual Coach: Teacher Portfolio System

This tool may be used by the ESC to extend coaching opportunities and reduce travel to outlying districts, or by internal district staff to document teacher growth through the building of the portfolio.



# Family/Community Engagement

## Parent Connection - Go Social

Parent Connection - Go Social was designed to maximize the use of social media and online tools in communicating with parents and community and getting them involved in the learning experiences of their children. The five modules are designed specifically for administrators/counselors, parents, and teachers.

## Grown Locally: Parent Power Community Capacity!

In an age when learners have greater needs and states have higher standards and fewer resources, the scale and complexity of sustained school improvement is too massive a challenge for schools alone.

Grown Locally is a one-day, hands-on, professional development workshop designed to improve the systems and processes that foster parent advocacy and support for teaching and learning. Based on a human centered design approach, school administrators and staff collaborate with a core parent team to:

- Understand the parent experience.
- Analyze school specific data.
- Identify the greatest needs.
- Develop a plan that is relevant to the parent experience and ready for implementation.

## Notes

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