IMPLEMENT A MORE EFFECTIVE MODEL OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT
Understand All Issues that Impact Student Learning

Every school district wants to help all of its students reach their full potential and become successful members of a workforce and community. Yet despite the hard work of educators, districts are increasingly concerned about the lack of growth in student performance. In fact, 87% of teachers and principals surveyed report that “many of my students face barriers to learning from outside of the school environment.”

These barriers include social, emotional, and behavioral issues, as well as factors related to poverty, family support, school climate, safety, substance abuse, mental health, community issues, and attendance. For students dealing with these challenges, instruction alone is not enough—schools also need to provide comprehensive learning supports to achieve equity and raise performance for all students.

“Schools must recognize that they have a range of learners, and they must design learning support systems that really ensure equity of opportunity for the many—not just a few.”

—Dr. Shawn Hagerty, Sumter County Schools, SC

Percentage of Principals Who Report Each Learning Barrier in Their School¹

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barrier</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family or personal crisis</td>
<td>95%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental health issues</td>
<td>91%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poverty</td>
<td>90%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hunger</td>
<td>85%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical issues</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeless or in temporary housing</td>
<td>79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>English language learning needs</td>
<td>72%</td>
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¹Scholastic Teacher & Principal School Report, 2016
Address Student Needs in Six Key Areas

The Learning Supports Approach uses six key areas to organize your strategies to more effectively address social, emotional, and behavioral issues.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Supports Practice Areas</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CLASSROOM-BASED ENRICHMENT</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Empower teachers to foster the social, emotional, intellectual, and behavioral development of students.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TRANSITIONS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ease students through key transitions to ensure they’re ready and motivated to learn.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>STUDENT &amp; FAMILY INTERVENTIONS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Provide assistance to students and families in order to ameliorate their specific issues.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CRISIS PREVENTION</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Be prepared with a crisis plan including prevention, early intervention, and immediate-response protocols.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>COMMUNITY COLLABORATION</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tap into local organizations and resources to augment and reinforce school efforts.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FAMILY ENGAGEMENT</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Engage families to be informed and active participants in their children’s educations.</td>
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“We can see the power in the coherence. It’s like putting a machine together and getting it to work more effectively.”

—Dr. Merrianne Dyer, Superintendent, Gainesville City Schools, GA
Scholastic’s Learning Supports Pathway is a complete, customized approach for school improvement that ensures school leaders, instructional leaders, and support services leaders co-create the improvement plan.

“Learning Supports is a natural way of doing business. You always have to make sure a child is able to meet his or her full potential, but you have to address those barriers so that a child can be complete.”
—Yolanda McCants, School Improvement Coordinator, Anniston City Schools, AL

An Organized System of Supports
Support services are often disparate, fragmented, and marginalized. We bring them together into a single, unified system of Learning Supports. For schools, this means greater capacity, efficiency, and purposefulness. For students, this means more holistic care.

An Integrated Approach to School Improvement
Learning supports are as important to student outcomes as the two other major organizational components—instruction and management. Not only does this integrated approach improve learning for all students, it also supports teachers by more equitably sharing the responsibility for student success.

“Instruction alone is not a powerful enough intervention to help all students succeed.”
—Paul Reville, Harvard GSE, Professor of Practice of Educational Policy and Administration and Former Secretary of Education for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

“The Learning Supports network truly worked. The frameworks are ideal for positioning people in key roles.”
—Dr. Daniel Boyd, Superintendent, Lowndes County Schools, AL

[Diagram of the Learning Supports Pathway showing intersections of Instruction, Learning Supports, and Management]
Build A Pathway to Student and School Success

When it comes to learning supports, every student, school, and district is unique. The LS Pathway is a customized solution—our specialists help you determine your specific needs, expand your school improvement plan, and implement high-impact strategies.

Commit: An Expanded Approach
Secure commitment from key leaders to a more comprehensive approach. Build a shared vision for school improvement.

Assess: Comprehensive Assessment
Evaluate support programs, practices, and positions. Map existing resources. Review key data.

Plan: Plan Development
Form, expand, and train school-improvement teams. Expand current improvement plan. Align district and school goals to the LS Pathway.

Implement: Implementation Support
Keep school-improvement initiatives on track with professional development, progress monitoring, and supplemental team training and resources.

Sustain: Reflection and Sustainability Planning
Review outcomes to identify effective practices and additional needs. Sustain progress by setting goals and planning initiatives for the year ahead.
The Learning Supports Pathway has propelled schools, districts, and states to significant wins in reducing learning barriers.

The work that we’ve done with Scholastic and leadership with our principals has built capacity for them to understand what should and shouldn’t be the focus of their work daily.

—Kevin Lemoine, Superintendent, Pointe Coupee Parish Schools, LA

### HOW LEARNING SUPPORTS DRIVES SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

- Increased attendance
- Higher graduation rates
- Narrowed achievement gaps
- Better student engagement
- Increased family engagement
- Improved school climate
- Fewer “low-performing” schools
- Reduced teacher fatigue
- Reduced teacher attrition
- Enhanced community partnerships
Scholastic offers support for every phase of the school-improvement process. Services include planning, consultation, coaching, and customized workshops designed to meet the unique needs of your students, your schools, and your district.

Yearlong Implementation

COMMIT, ASSESS, PLAN
- Sharing the Vision Workshop
- Comprehensive Assessment
- Team Formation and Training
- Improvement Plan Expansion

SUPPORT FOR IMPLEMENTATION
- On-site Executive Coaching
- Virtual Coaching and Support
- Customized Professional Learning

SUSTAINABILITY
- Reflection and Sustainability Planning
- Goal Setting for the Coming Year

Additional Workshops

SCHOOL CLIMATE
- Improving Adult-Student Relationships
- Addressing Discipline

PRINCIPAL LEADERSHIP SERIES
- Reframing School Improvement
- The Strategic Lens
- Analyzing Progress

TOPIC WORKSHOPS
- Student Attendance
- Mental Health
- Disproportionality
- Student Motivation
- Restorative Practices
- Graduation Rate
- Poverty Awareness

“Scholastic takes the time to hear what we need and to make sure that the professional development that they are providing meets my needs.”

—Kate Hazarian, Director, Family Engagement and Partnership Development, San Juan Unified School District, CA
“Using a Learning Supports lens fundamentally changed how our district leadership operates and significantly improved how we support our students and schools.”
—Andy Kubas, Executive Director, Bloomington, MN

“97% of teachers and principals surveyed agree that ‘equity in education for all children should be a national priority.’”
—Scholastic Teacher & Principal School Report, 2016

“Once we found out about the learning supports framework, we were ecstatic that we were no longer simply working harder—we were working smarter.”
—Jacqueline Brooks, Superintendent, Macon County Schools, GA

“’When you have people that really care about you and want to see you succeed, you want to see yourself be more successful.’”
—Blake Sims, student, Gainesville City Schools, GA

“We have improved our teaching and learning ability, we have improved the attendance rate in the school district, and our graduation rate has gone up. I give credit to the learning supports framework for making that happen.”
—Dr. Daniel Boyd, Superintendent, Lowndes County Schools, AL

To learn more, visit learningsupportsinfo@scholastic.com or call 800-387-1437 ext. 6747.