



September 20, 2019

Dear Partners in Education,

The 2019-2020 school year marks the second year of Comprehensive and Targeted Support and Improvement. Listed below are the improvement steps relevant to school identified for Comprehensive and Targeted Support and Improvement that are taking place in the month of September.

Comprehensive Support and Improvement

Comprehensive Needs Assessment: Conduct a CNA of both operational and instructional components. [CNA Link](#)

Continuous School Improvement Plan: Updating the CSIP with current state assessment data. The OPI will continue to provide guidance to schools in analyzing data, developing plans, and setting goals for literacy, math, and “other” based on the school’s needs. The OPI will also continue to assist schools with selecting and implementing evidence-based practices, strategies, and interventions. [CSIP Link](#)

Fall Conference-October 7th & 8th: The OPI will host a Title 1 School Support Fall 2019 Training at the Delta Hotels Marriott, in Helena, MT. This will be an opportunity for Comprehensive Support and Improvement School Leadership Teams to refine and improve the implementation of the Continuous Improvement Cycle and Evidenced-Based Interventions with fidelity. [Registration Link](#)

Family and Community Involvement: The OPI will assist LEAs and schools in establishing structures for ensuring tribal, family and community involvement in all stages of the process, and with monitoring implementation and effectiveness.

Tribal Consultation: Guidance for LEAs to consult with Indian tribes and tribal organization on issues affecting Native students. Consultation creates opportunities for LEAs and tribal leaders to work together on behalf of American Indian students. The consultation process allows affected LEAs to gather

input from Indian tribes and tribal organizations, fostering the collaboration that is a critical part of improving academic outcomes for Native students.

OPI Team: Monthly, the OPI point of contact is working in partnership with school and district leadership teams: [OPI Contact List](#).

Instructional Consultant: Use of Instructional Consultants selected by the district to support the schools monthly to increase teacher effectiveness and student learning.

Targeted Support and Improvement

Schools identified for targeted support work in partnership with the district to conduct a Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA) of instructional components and develop a Continuous School Improvement Plan focused on academic goals and underperforming subgroups for the 2019-2020 school year. The OPI is available to support districts and schools in analysis of the CNA and drafting the CSIP, as well as, provide the following strategies for targeted support and improvement:

- Facilitation of optional Data Talks to support the gap analysis of the CNA and state assessment data and use of data as part of the continuous improvement cycle;
- Support with developing the Continuous School Improvement Plan, which includes clear measurable goals focused on subgroups;
- Systemic literacy and math improvements through regional trainings; [Math Professional Learning](#) and [ELA Professional Learning](#)
- On-line courses focused on the identified subgroups through the Montana Learning Hub;
- Ongoing support through OPI-sponsored conferences and website resources.

The OPI will be hosting a webinar on October 3rd, 2019, 10:00-11:00a.m., to review the support available to Targeted Support Schools and specifically discuss the optional Data Talk process and application for a Formula Grant. Please be on the look-out for an email with an invitation to participate in the webinar.

For more information, contact julie.murgel@mt.gov, 406-444-3172

Putting Montana Students First **A⁺**