

Response to Critical Success Factor Exercise
SREB Training on University/District Partnerships
Held at ISU on 11/1/10

Question posed to the groups - What indications can you come up with to provide evidence that an individual is meeting each of the 13 Critical Success Factors?

Critical Success Factor 1: Focused Mission to Improve Student Achievement

Develop or adopt a set of guiding principles and policies, keeping them focused on student learning

Produce gains in student achievement

Prepare students to make a successful transition to post secondary studies work

Critical Success Factor 2: Set High Expectations

High academic rigor

More students on track

AP classes (increases in numbers and pass rate)

Study groups

Agendas

Observations/participation

Video

Clearly articulated belief that all students can learn

Interventions designed to ensure all students and the individual student needs are met

Critical Success Factor 3: Recognize and Encourage Good Instruction

Support (building relationships with an among teachers and other staff)

Professional development

Constant focus on quality instructions

Real world – getting in those classrooms

Critical Success Factor 4: Faculty and Staff Understand that Every Student Counts

Promote parent involvement (sharing information and expectations for high performance)

Establish partnerships with all of the stakeholders to support student growth

Critical Success Factor 5: Data for Continuous Quality Improvement

Collect a variety of data

Use data to promote discussions

Analyze data to make decisions

Critical Success Factor 6: Visibility

Create opportunities to communicate about student learning

Getting and using feedback effectively

Critical Success Factor 7: Make Parents Partners

Epsteins' research informed this group's discussion

Communication

Volunteers

Learning at home

Participation in decision making (authentic)

Collaboration with community

Critical Success Factor 8: Understand the Change Process

Review data

Create opportunities for dialogue

Climate – set high expectations and how you interact with staff

Critical Success Factor 9: Understand Adult Learning Principals

Support staff study groups – shared learning experiences

Learning new strategies with on-site development

Send teams to nearby schools that have been successful

Critical Success Factor 10: Organize Time and Resources

Establish 3-4 scheduling options

Variety of purposes, driven by learner needs

Flexible, collaborative, and deliberate

Critical Success Factor 11: Acquire and Use Resources Wisely

Give them a test – 5 points to include in writing grants

Quantify number of proposals written/funded

Develop partnerships

Time for teachers

Drive home that this is an ongoing activity

Use of technology as a teaching and learning tool

Critical Success Factor 12: Obtain Support from Central Office and Community & Parents

Communication

Relationships

Opportunities for meaningful participation

Advocacy

Critical Success Factor 13: Continuously Learn from and Seek Out Colleagues that Keep One Abreast of New Research

Professional conversations among peers

Relationships with key professional groups

Access to resources and opportunities that provide key practices for school improvement - immediate and long terms needs of your school