



Comprehensive School Improvement Assessment (CSA)



The CSA is a constructive, diagnostic service helping school districts identify their strengths and areas of needed improvement. The service will use student achievement data, surveys, interviews, observations and document reviews to determine the district's current status in relation to research-based characteristics of high-performing schools.

Research-based characteristics of high-performing schools include:

- High expectations for student learning and urgency for improving achievement.
- Rigorous curriculum standards and expectations.
- High-quality instructional practices.
- A comprehensive assessment system.
- Alignment of curriculum, instruction and assessment.
- Focused improvement goals with specific measurable targets.
- Clearly defined initiatives to improve teaching and learning in the goal area.
- Districtwide culture of inquiry and quality professional development.
- Extensive use of data for taking action and monitoring student learning results.
- Shared leadership at all levels of the system.
- Parent and community connections.

The assessment service facilitator and team members will conduct extensive data collection and a diagnostic analysis in order to make recommendations for advancing the district's approach to improving student achievement. A public and written report will be issued to share these findings. Support will be provided for district staff to help integrate recommendations into the school district's existing improvement plan and to help connect district personnel with potential sources of ongoing support.



For further information or to schedule a **FREE** initial assessment interview, contact:

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The Iowa School Boards Foundation is the research affiliate of the Iowa Association of School Boards, providing a sound base of objective, reliable information and research to IASB and other policy makers in shared commitment to excellence and equity in student achievement.

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