

On November 22, we will host data leaders from the Ohio 8 districts. We will focus on how each district uses data to inform instruction, data-focused professional development, and sharing results with the community.

Ohio 8 Coalition: Best Practice Focus Form

Each district is asked to complete a summary document that is shared with the group and is the foundation of our collaboration time together.

District: Youngstown City School District

Superintendent's name: Justin Jennings, CEO

Union President's name: Larry Ellis

District DLT Contact: Sonya Gordon, sonya.gordon@youngstown.k12.oh.us

Union DLT Contact:

**What strategies have you implemented or do you plan to implement focused on improving the focus topic?
What data strategies have had the most impact on student learning?**

Youngstown City School District's instructional focus is on improving the literacy skills of all scholars. The district's student performance data clearly illustrated the need for us to establish a focus on literacy with a very focused vision and mission that will drive our work and propel improved outcomes for our scholars. This analysis of data provided the foundation for all of the district's discourse, planning work and professional plan development. The district has delved deeply into the relevant student performance data from multiple sources, and analyzed patterns and trends, addressing every aspect of literacy acquisition, PreK-12. This expansive work included gathering information from many data sources, all of which affirm the need for a literacy focus in our community at large as there are indeed factors that contribute to low reading achievement that must be addressed with a purposeful sense of urgency. The summaries and conclusions of all of these teams were very consistent and revealed deficits in student achievement lags in student growth and gaps in service delivery --- many of which were revealed through the formula for A Simple View of Reading. This analysis provided an implementation ramp into our next steps, determination of the root cause analysis. Completing a root cause analysis allowed us to further identify factors impacting our data and to inform a plan to correct the underlying systems and processes impeding students' literacy achievement and growth. Our Professional Development Plan for the year includes embedded waiver days and the purchasing of curriculum materials. These resources will fill the gaps identified in our data analysis and are, therefore, aligned to our plan to include specific emphasis on foundational and extended literacy practices that are grounded in evidence-based reading instruction including the Simple View of Reading.

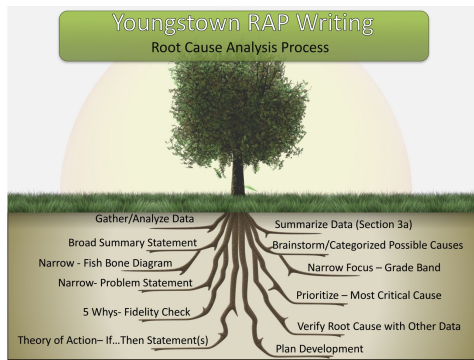
What lessons have you learned or suggestions do you have for other districts working to improve the focus topic?

Our urban scholars have many barriers that can affect their achievement and growth, and we have a tendency to "go into the weeds" and lose focus on the factors within our control when discussing the data. Completing the root cause analysis helped us to avoid the tendency to single out one factor to arrive at the most expedient, but possibly incomplete, resolution. It helped us to avoid treating the symptoms rather than the true, underlying problems that are contributing to our lack of student growth and achievement.

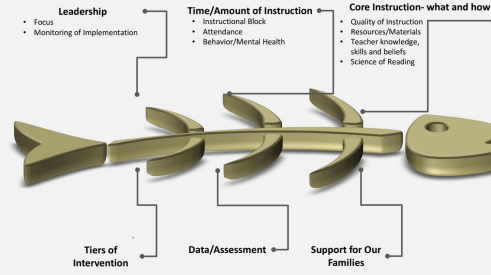
NOTE: This should be one page or less and will be shared with the Ohio 8 Coalition Members

*Please attach any data related public communication/relevant fliers/handouts/information you have already developed for your district.

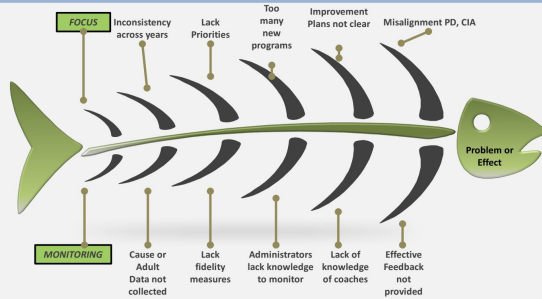
Root Cause Analysis Activity Using the Science of Reading & Tim Shanahan's Journey Checkpoints



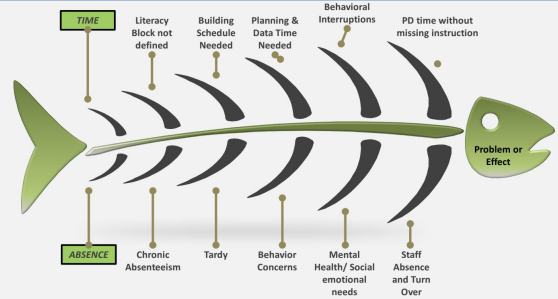
Youngstown RAP Cause Brainstorm



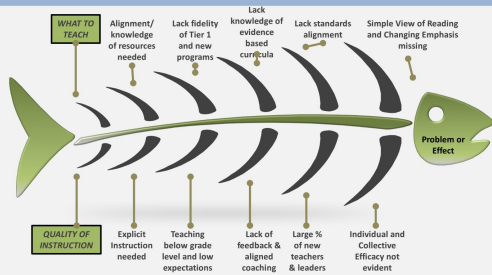
Leadership- Affinity Post-Note Summary



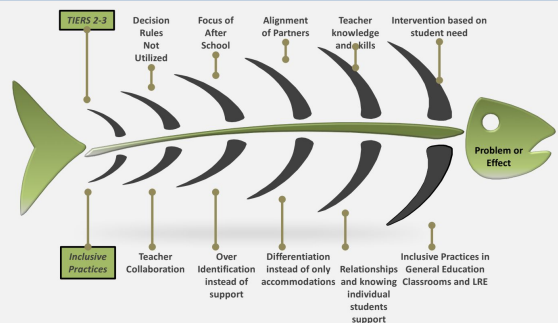
Time/Amount of Instruction- Affinity Post-Note Summary



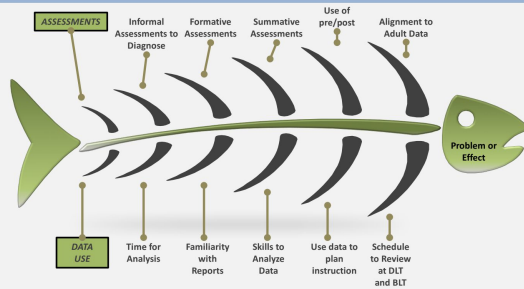
Core Instruction- What and How – Science of Reading Affinity Post-Note Summary



Tiers of Intervention- MTSS- Affinity Post-Note Summary



Data/Assessment- Affinity Post-Note Summary



Support for Our Families- Affinity Post-Note Summary

