



The Best Practice Handbook for Student Achievement in Public Education

Education Interim Committee
November 19, 2025

The goal of public education is student learning & academic achievement





Acknowledgements

- The Utah State Board of Education
- The Utah School Boards Association
- The Utah State Superintendents Association
- The Utah Association of Public Charter Schools
- Utah State University Center for the School of the Future
- The Brigham Young University-Public School Partnership
- Dr. Richard Nye, Governor's Education Advisor





The school boards role is to govern. They should create a vision and mission focused on student learning, set aspirational academic goals for the district, direct policy development, and provide oversight and accountability.





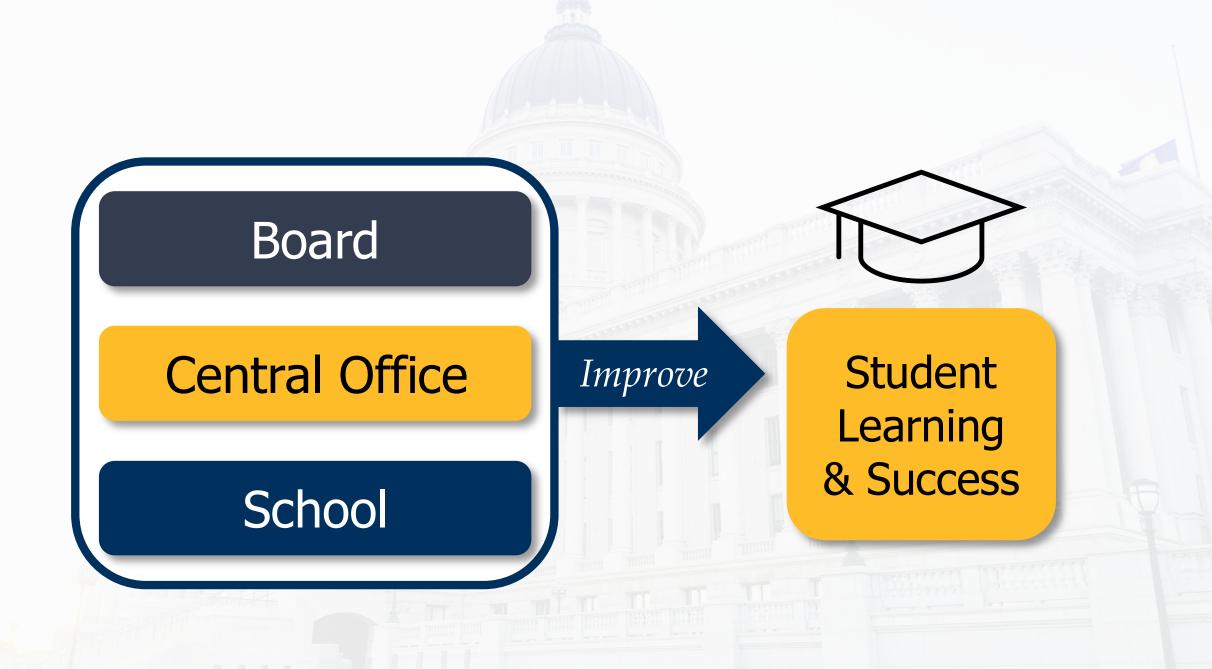
Teachers are responsible for academic instruction. They manage classrooms and work to increase each student's knowledge and academic achievement.



School Leadership

LEA leadership's role is to manage. They implement a strategic plan and ensure follow through of the LEA's vision and goals. Their staff oversee allocation of resources and ensure accountability based on student achievement. They also supervise and support principals.

The principal is the instructional leader in the school. They are responsible for implementation of the LEA's vision and goals within their school. Principals also hold teachers and students accountable for academic achievement. The goal is to allow teachers to focus on instruction.



Effective Local Boards of Education...



Develop Vision, Mission, and Goals

Focus on Student
Academic
Achievement





Clarify the Superintendent Relationship







Improved Training for Charter Board Members which can apply to all Local Boards of Education

PositiveImplementation

Park City School District's Strategic Plan





Strategic Questions for Board Consideration

- Does the LEA have a strategic plan? Does this plan contain all the necessary elements and is it clearly focused on student learning and academic achievement?
- Are there sufficient resources to support the LEA's strategic plan and objectives?
- Does the LEA have a clear framework outlining the relationship between the LEA and the schools? How much autonomy do individual schools have?



Questions to Guide Discussion

Additional Resources

Resources for Additional Learning



Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, 2022, *Guide to Strategic Planning*, https://gopb.utah.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/2022_07_11-Strategic-Plan-Guidance.pdf

National School Boards Association, 2018, *The Key Work of School Boards*, https://tsba.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Key-Work-Cover-and-Text-20]an15.pdf











Complete List of Best Practices LEA Central Offices

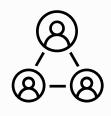


School Principals





Effective LEA Central Offices...



Align Staff Around Supporting Schools

Ensure Each School
Has a High-Quality
Principal





Provide Instructional Clarity







Audit Work Demonstrated
That Principals Feel A
Need For Better Training
And Support

PositiveImplementation

Houston Independent School District Principal Pipeline





Effective Principals Are...



Visionary School Planners

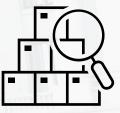
Instructional Leaders





Champions of Teacher Collaboration

Experts in Tiered Interventions





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