

HIGH SCHOOLS THAT WORK **GOALS**

- Increase the percentages of high school students who meet the college- and career-readiness goals in reading, mathematics and science to 85 percent.
- Increase the percentages of all high school students who perform at the Proficient level in reading, mathematics and science to at least 50 percent, as measured by the NAEP-referenced *HSTW* Assessment.
- Increase the percentage of high school graduates completing the *HSTW*-recommended curriculum to 85 percent.
- Increase the percentage of high school students who complete high school four years after entering grade nine to 90 percent.
- Advance state and local policies and leadership initiatives that sustain a continuous school improvement effort.
- Help all students leave high school with an employer certification, postsecondary credit or the knowledge and skills needed to avoid remedial postsecondary courses.

HIGH SCHOOLS THAT WORK

KEY PRACTICES

- **High expectations** – Motivate more students to meet higher standards by integrating high expectations into classroom practices and giving students frequent feedback.
- **Program of study** – Require each student to complete an upgraded academic core and a concentration.
- **Academic studies** – Teach more students the essential concepts from the college-preparatory curriculum by encouraging them to apply academic content and skills to real-world problems and projects.
- **Career/technical studies** – Provide more students with access to intellectually challenging career/technical studies in high-demand fields that emphasize the higher-level literacy, mathematics, science and problem-solving skills needed in the workplace and further education.
- **Work-based learning** – Enable students and their parents to choose from programs that integrate challenging high school studies and work-based learning and are planned by educators, employers and students.
- **Teachers working together** – Provide cross-disciplinary teams of teachers with time and support to work together to help students succeed in challenging academic and career/technical studies. Integrate reading and writing strategies into all parts of the curriculum and integrate mathematics into science and career/technical classrooms.
- **Students actively engaged** – Engage students in academic and career/technical classrooms in rigorous and challenging proficient-level assignments using research-based instructional strategies and technology.
- **Guidance** – Involve students and their parents in a guidance and advisement system that develops positive relationships and ensures completion of an accelerated program of study with an academic or career/technical concentration. Provide each student with the same mentor throughout high school to assist with setting goals, selecting courses, reviewing the student's progress and suggesting appropriate interventions as necessary.
- **Extra help** – Provide a structured system of extra help to assist students in completing accelerated programs of study with high-level academic and technical content.
- **Culture of continuous improvement** – Use student assessment and program evaluation data continually to improve school culture, organization, management, curriculum and instruction to advance student learning.